

The Morning Journal: Ohio lawmaker's highway bill aims to reach suffering veterans

State Rep. Steve Hambley says it could help remind veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder to reach out for help.

The Morning Journal: Ohio House approves bill on protective orders for dating violence

Rep. Emelia Strong Sykes, an Akron Democrat, and Rep. Nathan Manning, a North Ridgeville Republican, are sponsoring the bill.

Youngstown Vindicator: Pharmacists could offer much cheaper version of EpiPen if Ohio bill becomes law

The Blade reports the bill introduced last week by state Rep. Derek Merrin would allow substitution only with the patient's permission. Doctors still can insist on the brand-name EpiPen. Merrin, a Republican, says he sees the bill as a national model, "free-market solution" to the Mylan pricing issue.

The Morning Journal: Ohio Rep. Wes Rutherford reintroduces bill aimed at curbing elder abuse

State Rep. Wes Rutherford= 2s Elder Justice Act unanimously cleared the Ohio House last year. ... Rutherford, a Hamilton Republican, said changes have been made to the bill to address the issues raised.

Dayton Daily News: Butler County lawmaker re-introduces elder abuse bill

Rutherford said he and now former Ohio Rep. Mike Dovilla, R-Berea, moved in 2014 to put a \$10 million appropriation for Adult Protective Services in the Mid-Biennium Review bill in anticipation of the Elder Justice Act "because that was the number one concern we heard back.= 4

Cincinnati Enquirer: Guest column from Rep. John Becker: New right-to-work bill restores workers' rights

It's about freedom. I authored Ohio House Bill 53 to restore the freedom of association to public-sector employees. This right-to-work legislation provides public-sector workers the freedom to opt out of union representation and dues. A private sector right to work bill will soon be introduced by one of my colleagues in the Ohio House of Representatives.

Mount Vernon News: Goodwill opens in Fredericktown

Rick Carfagna, State Representative of House District 68, was there to give the store an official welcome from the Ohio House of Representatives.

The Findlay Courier: Editorial: SNAP fraud

Two lawmakers, Rep. Tim Schaffer, R-Lancaster, and Sen. Matt Huffman, R-Lima, have proposed legislation that would add photos to food stamp EBT cards in an effort to

reduce "trafficking," in which recipients swap SNAP benefits for money. The bills are worth consideration.

Van Wert Independent: State legislators meet with SWCD staff

State Representative Craig Riedel and State Senator Cliff Hite met this past week with representatives of the Van Wert County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) at the recent annual "Conservation Partnership Meeting" held in downtown Columbus.

The Morrow County Sentinel: Mount Gilead High School seniors engage education experts in discussion

Ohio House Representative from District 87, Wesley A. Goodman also discussed state and national perspectives on education with the students.

Record Herald: Guest column from Speaker Cliff Rosenberger: Coming together to celebrate Ohio history

It is no secret that I am a history enthusiast, especially when it comes to the stories of our state and nation. This week marked Ohio's 214th birthday, 214 years since its official induction into the United States.

Circleville Herald: Rep. Scherer honors essay winner

"I was honored to be able to recognize Kalila for her tremendous work in this competition and I was pleased to be able to discuss her passion for the issues she addressed in her writing piece," Scherer said.

Sentinel-Tribune: Gavarone appointed to House Finance Committee

"I am honored by the speaker's decision to appoint me to House Finance Committee," Gavarone said. "I am excited to work with Chairman Smith and the other members of the Finance Committee as we move towards delivering a budget that benefits all citizens of Ohio."

Salem News: State Representative honors Wilson as state champion

"It was an absolute privilege to honor Jared with a resolution today," Ginter said. "Jared is a tremendously talented golfer, but also a very dedicated student for which he should be commended. I believe that Jared has a very bright future ahead."

Record Herald: Peterson discusses tax policy with municipal leaders

"It's important that we, as members of the House and Senate continue to meet with the representatives of our local municipalities, especially during the budget season," said Representative Anielski. "Hearing their concerns allows us to craft a better, more responsive budget for the state of Ohio that works well on every level of governance."

WCMH: Ohio lawmakers hold first hearing on 'Judy's Law'

"The judge and the prosecutor did their job the best they could under current law," Hughes said. "It's now time for us in the legislature to do our job to ensure that victims like Judy receive the justice they deserve."

WSPD: Ohio lawmakers want harsher penalties for distracted driving

"Law enforcement at that time would determine that distracted driving was the cause of the primary or contributing factor. The law enforcement officer could then charge an additional charge on with that which would be a minor misdemeanor," Hughes says.

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Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2017 2:25 PM
To: Merrin, Derek; Kasych, Shawn; Myers, Marisa; Schuring, Kirk
CC: Zielinski, Justin; Wolf, Jimmy; Springhetti, Blake
Subject: RE: Please Review Draft - 15% Insurance

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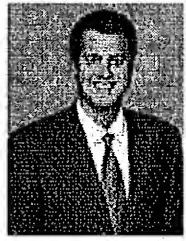
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Derek Merrin
Ohio House of Representatives
House District 47
Office (614) 466-1731
Derek.Merrin@ohiohouse.gov
77 S. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

R-132-0684
Tom Wert

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: L_132_0070-2 of the 132nd G.A. **Status:** As Drafted

Sponsor: Rep. Merrin

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Requires state employees to pay a share of premium costs for dental, vision, and basic life insurance

State Fiscal Highlights

- Requiring exempt employees to pay the same percentage of the coverage costs for dental, vision, and basic life insurance benefits as they do for health insurance will reduce the state outlay for these benefits by several millions of dollars annually. Currently, the employee rate of cost share for health insurance is 15%. There were about 16,400 exempt employees on the state payroll in December 2016.
- If the state were successful in negotiating for a similar rate of cost share among employees covered by collective bargaining contracts, the state's outlay for dental, vision, and basic life insurance for this group of employees would also be reduced by several millions of dollars annually. There are just under 35,900 collective bargaining unit employees currently on the state payroll.
- Estimated annual savings based on state benefit costs for FY 2016 and FY 2017 year to date are shown in the table within the "Detailed Fiscal Analysis."

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill requires exempt state employees who receive dental, vision, or basic life insurance benefits through state plans coordinated by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to pay a percentage of the premium or percentage of the cost of that coverage equivalent to the percentage share they pay toward their state health coverage. For state employees covered by collective bargaining agreements, the bill requires the state to attempt to negotiate provisions in those agreements that require an employee cost share for dental, vision, and basic life insurance equal to the percentage of their share of the premium for health insurance. Under the state's current dental, vision, and basic life insurance programs, these benefits are provided to eligible state employees and their dependents at no cost. Requiring individuals that receive these benefits to pay a portion of the coverage costs could reduce state outlays for employee benefits by several millions of dollars annually. Additional details are provided under the headings below.

Exempt employee dental, vision, and basic life insurance

Under the state's current dental, vision, and basic life insurance plans, after one year of service eligible state employees receive coverage at no cost. For exempt employees, state agencies are assessed premium amounts for each employee that has elected coverage. These assessments are transferred from the agencies' payroll accounts to the State Employee Health Benefit Fund (Fund 8080) or the Life Insurance Investment Fund (Fund 8100), as applicable. Claims and administrative costs for the programs are then paid from these funds.

For exempt employees, the premium assessments for dental insurance are \$34.23 per month for single coverage and \$99.19 per month for employees with family coverage. Vision insurance rates are \$10.04 per month per employee with single coverage and \$27.61 per month per employee with family coverage. Life insurance rates for exempt employees are calculated for each employee independently. Under the current plan, the rate assessed to agencies is 11.7¢ for each \$1,000 of the covered employees' salary. As of March 2017, approximately 13,000 exempt employees are covered under the state's dental, vision, and basic life insurance plans.

Under the bill, exempt employees would be required to pay a portion of these assessments at a rate equal to the rate they pay for health insurance. Under the state's current health insurance plan, that rate is 15% of the coverage costs. Thus, under the current insurance plans, exempt employees would pay \$5.13 (\$34.23 x 15%) per month for single dental and \$14.88 (\$99.19 x 15%) for family dental insurance, \$1.51 (\$10.04 x 15%) for single vision and \$4.14 (\$27.61 x 15%) for family vision insurance, and 1.8¢ (11.7¢ x 15%) per \$1,000 of the covered employees' salary for life insurance.

As the table below shows, assessments to state employers to provide dental, vision, and basic life insurance benefits to exempt employees totaled more than \$17.6 million in FY 2016. Under the bill's proposal, exempt employees with these benefits would have paid more than \$2.6 million of that total. The table shows what the employee and state share of coverage costs would have been and the actual costs paid by the state for FY 2016 and year to date (as of March 14, 2017) for FY 2017 under the bill. These calculations are based on an employee paying a 15% share of the total cost of coverage.

| Exempt Employee Benefits Costs as Proposed under L-132-0070-2 Compared to Actual Benefits Costs for FY 2016 and FY 2017 Year-to-Date | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Coverage | FY 2016 (Under L-132-0070-2) | | YTD FY 2017 (Under L-132-0070-2) | | Actual State Costs | |
| | Employee Share | State Share | Employee Share | State Share | FY 2016 | YTD FY 2017 |
| Dental | \$1,888,763 | \$10,702,993 | \$588,387 | \$3,334,195 | \$12,591,757 | \$3,922,582 |
| Vision | \$529,192 | \$2,998,755 | \$164,807 | \$933,906 | \$3,527,946 | \$1,098,713 |
| Life | \$224,926 | \$1,274,581 | \$71,406 | \$404,633 | \$1,499,507 | \$476,038 |
| TOTAL | \$2,642,882 | \$14,976,329 | \$824,600 | \$4,672,734 | \$17,619,211 | \$5,497,334 |

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Nonexempt employee dental, vision, and basic life insurance

Premium payments for dental, vision, and basic life benefits paid by the state for employees in a collective bargaining unit are specified in the collective bargaining agreement with the Ohio Civil Service Employees Association (OCSEA). Under the contract, the FY 2017 rate is \$82 per month per covered employee. For FY 2018 the rate increases to \$83 per month per covered employee. The amounts paid by the state of Ohio for these benefits that apply to union employees are deposited with the Union Benefits Trust Fund (UBTF) which pays the claims and administrative costs of these benefits programs. The UBTF is governed by a board of trustees consisting of a representative from the state and representatives from the five unions with the most state employee members. This fund is outside of the direct control of the state and is not subject to appropriations by the General Assembly. According to DAS, as of February 28, 2017, the total number of state employees in collective bargaining units was 35,818.

If the state were successful in negotiating an employee cost share for dental, vision, and basic life insurance at the current 15% rate, then union employees would pay \$12.30 per month ($\$82 \times 15\%$) for these benefits. In FY 2018 that rate would increase to \$12.45 per month ($\$83 \times 15\%$). In FY 2016, state contributions to the UBTF for these benefits totaled approximately \$31.0 million. As of March 14, 2017, FY 2017 year-to-date state contributions to the UBTF were slightly more than \$10.0 million. Assuming the requirement for union employees to pay 15% for dental, vision, and basic life insurance had been in place, savings to the state would have been approximately \$4.7 million in FY 2016 (15% of approximately \$31.0 million). FY 2017 savings year to date would have totaled slightly more than about \$1.5 million (15% of approximately \$10.0 million).

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Subject: Re: Please Review Draft 15% Insurance

What's the total savings of this proposal to the state?

Shawn Kasych
Majority Policy Director
614.466.0863

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That's what we can immediately save and do legislatively.

If the state was able to negotiate similar provision in collective bargaining agreements with state employees,
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Total savings would potentially be \$7.3 million annually. With insurance likely increasing, the savings would grow as well.

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From: Springhetti, Blake
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 11:35 AM
To: House_All
Subject: Co-Sponsor Request: Exempt State Employees Pay Portion of Dental, Vision, and Life
Attachments: Co-Sponsor Request - Requiring Exempt State Employees to Pay Healthcare Premiums.pdf



Representative Derek Merrin
47th District
MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Derek Merrin
DATE: March 20, 2017
RE: Co-Sponsor Request: Exempt State Employees Pay Portion of Dental, Vision, and Life Insurance Premiums

I will be introducing legislation that requires exempt state employees to pay a portion of their dental, vision, and life insurance premiums. Exempt state employees currently pay 15% of their premium for medical insurance – while paying 0% of the premium for dental, vision, and life insurance coverage. This legislation requires exempt state employees pay the same percentage for dental, vision, and life coverage as they pay for their medical insurance premium.

Key Facts:

- By having exempt state employees pay 15% of their dental, vision, and life premiums, taxpayers would save at least \$2.6 million annually.
- Legislation would impact about 16,400 exempt state employees.
- Legislation directs the state to seek the same provision when negotiating collective bargaining agreements that cover about 35,900 unionized state employees, which would save taxpayers an additional \$4.7 million annually.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact my Legislative Aide, Blake Springhetti, at Blake.Springhetti@ohiohouse.gov or at (614) 466-1731 by **Tuesday, March 28 at 5:00 P.M.**

Sincerely,



Ohio House of Representatives



Representative Derek Merrin
47th District
MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Derek Merrin
DATE: March 20, 2017
RE: Co-Sponsor Request: Exempt State Employees Pay Portion of Dental, Vision, and Life Insurance Premiums

I will be introducing legislation that requires exempt state employees to pay a portion of their dental, vision, and life insurance premiums. Exempt state employees currently pay 15% of their premium for medical insurance – while paying 0% of the premium for dental, vision, and life insurance coverage. This legislation requires exempt state employees pay the same percentage for dental, vision, and life coverage as they pay for their medical insurance premium.

Key Facts:

- By having exempt state employees pay 15% of their dental, vision, and life premiums, taxpayers would save at least \$2.6 million annually.
- Legislation would impact about 16,400 exempt state employees.
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Derek Merrin
Ohio House of Representatives
House District 47
Office (614) 466-1731
Derek.Merrin@ohiohouse.gov
77 S. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

From: Springhetti, Blake
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 11:18 AM
To: House_All
Subject: Reminder: Co-Sponsor Request: Exempt State Employees Pay Portion of Dental, Vision, and Life
Attachments: Co-Sponsor Request - Requiring Exempt State Employees to Pay Healthcare Premiums.pdf

**Reminder: The deadline to co-sponsor is
tomorrow at 5pm**



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Columbus, Ohio 43215

From: report@hannah.com
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:51 PM
To: DL_Hannah
Subject: Hannah News Stories for Monday, March 27, 2017

Monday, March 27, 2017

IN TODAY'S HANNAH REPORT:

Please click here to read the entire Hannah Report.

Today's Stories

- [Conference Committee Approves Transportation Budget with 4-2 Vote](#)
- [Poll Finds 2016 Ideological Divisions Remain among Ohio Voters](#)
- [Kasich Addresses AHCA Withdrawal on CNN Sunday, Calls Divisiveness 'Pathetic'](#)
- [Controlling Board Approves Agenda with Rare Lack of Holds from Legislators](#)
- [JCARR Hears Rules Changes on Shaving, Hunting, Case Management, Casinos](#)
- [Shale Gas Production Ends Three-Year Climb](#)
- [Kasich Administration Announces \\$4.3 million in New Tax Credits](#)
- [OSU Touts New Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus](#)
- [Stateline: Lawmakers Look to Curb Foreign Influence in State Elections](#)
- [State Government Roundup: ECOT](#)
- [Campaign Corner: Ohio GOP](#)
- [Ohio Digest: Buckeye Institute](#)
- [Campus Chronicle: Lanzinger Papers](#)
- [Judicial Actions: Commercial Dockets](#)
- [Legislative Schedule Changes](#)

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From: Policy Matters Ohio
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 4:56 PM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: Cool new look, same hard-hitting research: News from Policy Matters

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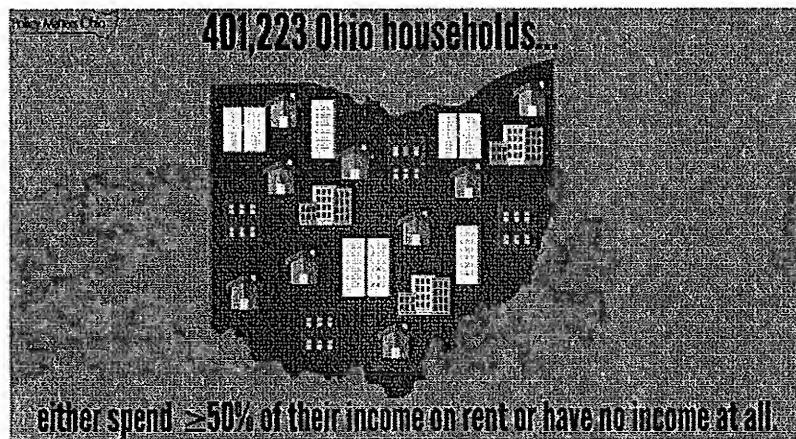
Fresh new look: If you've been on [PolicyMattersOhio.com](#) lately -- and we know you're visiting our site multiple times a day -- you've probably noticed some changes. Click around and let us know what you think! A big thank you to the Cleveland Foundation and the FORM group for funding and developing the new site.

Ohio in motion: We're driving our pro-transit agenda forward - and beginning to see results. Last week state lawmakers [voted to provide \\$33 million a year](#) for new buses and infrastructure improvements for Ohio's 61 public transit agencies. That's a \$10 million increase over what Governor John Kasich proposed. But we have a long way to go - especially when many transit agencies could lose millions due to changes in the state sales tax base. [We testified](#) asking the state to make transit agencies whole. Meanwhile, Senator Michael Skindell [introduced legislation](#) to increase state funding for public transportation to \$25 million and up the use of federal flex funding for transit to \$50 million.

Do it for the kids: In his State of the State Address, Governor John Kasich emphasized the importance of education. But in an [issue brief released last week](#), State Policy Fellow Victoria Jackson explains how his proposed 2018-2019 budget cuts funding for two-thirds of Ohio's school districts, especially the ones struggling the most. Instead, the legislature should roll back tax cuts for the wealthiest and close some of our state's unnecessary tax loopholes.

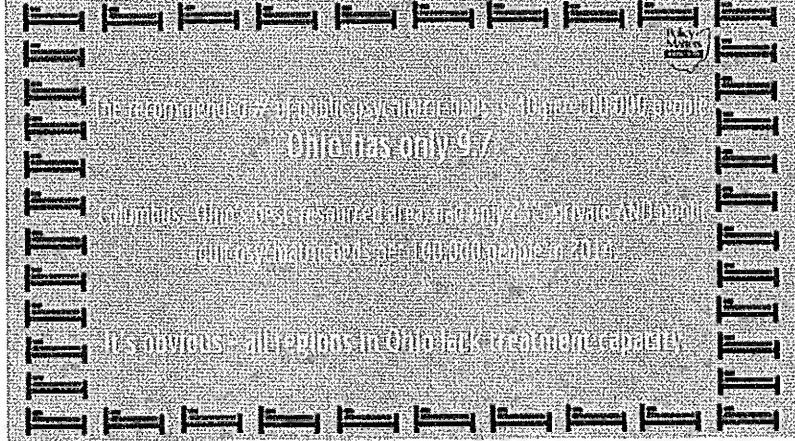
Budget Bites: Our latest [Budget Bites](#) deal with two of Ohio's most pressing issues: housing and the drug epidemic. The 2018-2019 budget falls short on both fronts.

The Ohio Housing Trust Fund



In 2015 more than 33,500 Ohioans were homeless and 400,000 spent more than half their income on rent, but Governor Kasich's 2018-2019 budget doesn't do enough to meet Ohio's housing needs.

Mental Health and Addiction



Governor Kasich is issued new restrictions on pain killers and is investing \$20 million into addiction research. These aren't bad ideas, but what we really need in the middle of a public health crisis is resources for treatment.

Speaking Up in April: Policy Matters is out in our communities in April, discussing and fighting for good policy. Amy Hanauer runs a discussion on resistance at [Cleveland State's Women's Leadership Symposium](#) on 4/12; leads a reading on the [Cleveland Race Anthology](#) at Happy Dog - Euclid Tavern on 4/18; and debates a Buckeye Institute researcher on social policy at Capital University on 4/26; Daniel Ortiz speaks to Cleveland's Neighborhood Leadership Institute on 4/20; and talks transit at Services for Independent Living on 4/28; Victoria Jackson reviews education findings on [America's Workforce Radio](#) on 4/13; Our Columbus office will be out in force - Hannah Halbert, Wendy Patton and Kalitha Williams - for an [Advocates for Ohio's Future webinar on work supports](#) on 4/18; and Zach Schiller teams up with Hannah to tackle unemployment compensation (and how to save it) in a 4/19 [webinar](#). And those are just the public events! C'mon out and see us, or invite us if you want to learn more.

[Read this e-news online](#)



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=A

= A

Policy Matters Ohio, Columbus, 43215, Cleveland, OH 44114

[SafeUnsubscribe™](#) marisa.myers@ohiohouse.gov

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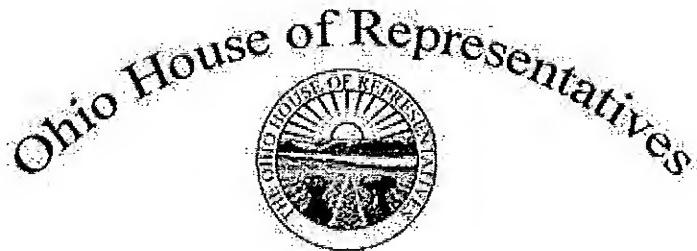
Sent by news@policymattersohio.org in collaboration with



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=A

From: Rosenberger, Cliff
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 11:33 AM
To: Rosenberger, Cliff
Subject: MEMO: 2017 ALEC Spring Task Force Summit
Attachments: ALECSpringTaskForce.pdf



Cliff Rosenberger
Speaker, Ohio House of Representatives

Memorandum

To: All House Republican Members
From: Speaker Cliff Rosenberger
Date: April 11, 2017
Re: 2017 ALEC Spring Task Force Summit

As many of you already know, the American Legislative Exchange Council is America's largest nonpartisan, voluntary membership organization of state legislators dedicated to the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism. Comprised of nearly one-quarter of the country's state legislators and stakeholders from across the policy spectrum, ALEC members represent more than 60 million Americans and provide jobs to more than 30 million people in the United States.

On May 5, 2017, ALEC will be hosting their Spring Task Force Summit, located in Charlotte, North Carolina. This one-day summit will give participants the opportunity to collaborate with legislative leaders from across the country on some of the following issues:

- Civil Justice

- Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development
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- Energy, Environment and Agriculture
- Health and Human Services
- Tax and Fiscal Policy

I can personally attest to the benefit of working with leaders from across our great country to find solutions to common issues. If you are interested in joining ALEC and participating in the 2017 Spring Task Force Summit, I encourage you to visit their website at <https://www.alec.org/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or to Tyler Yapple in my office at Tyler.Yapple@ohiohouse.gov or 614-466-7959.



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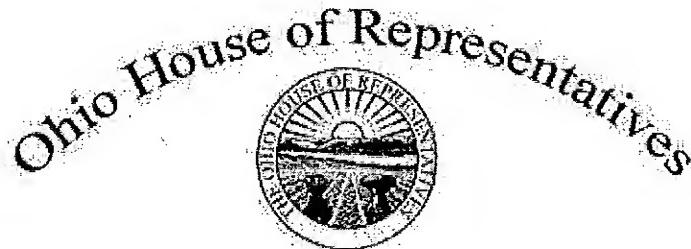
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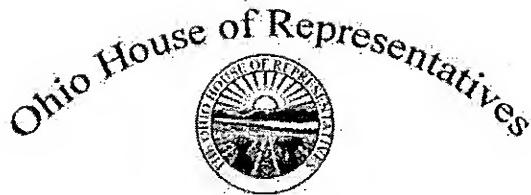
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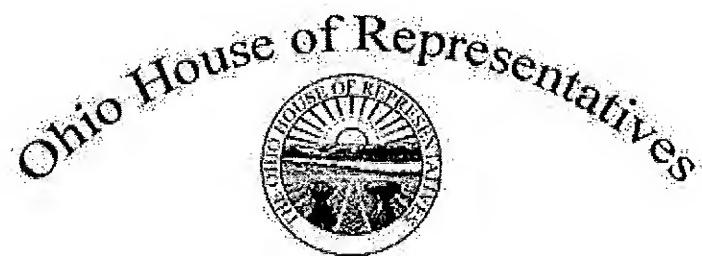
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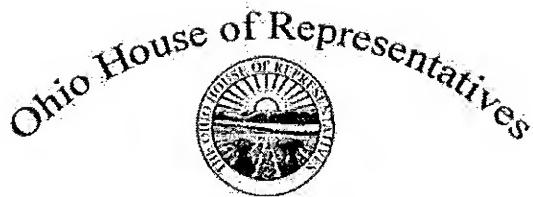
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From: Marisa Myers
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 4:11 PM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: Higher Ed Notes

Higher Ed Caucus Discussion

Textbook issue on publisher end (SOTH)
Special fees capture market-based costs, 1% cap on tuition for graduate programs (Faber)
Unfreeze tuition cap for community colleges (Romanchuk, Reidel)
-slight increase for them
Prevailing wage? (Vitale)
Market-based tuition, no caps (Reineke)
-careful with caps bc tuition could jump (Duffey)
Universities using old model, not taking advantage of online learning; student athletes being required to attend events 5 years after graduation (Brenner)
SSI for short-term certificates? (Faber)
Duplication of programs with bachelors degree at 2-years; issue of proprietary schools (SOTH)
WGU subject to collective bargaining, public records? Should be scrapped or incorporated into our system in an appropriate way (Seitz)

Public Testimony 2

Pres. Berkman
(Antonio) CSU textbook proposal: do universities share best practices?
-IUC is the best forum for presidential exchange and collaboration; opportunities on multi-term registration, 120 credit hour cap
(Anielski) counseling, student services to develop students?
-“intrusive counseling” for students that aren’t doing well and other services; identify high risk students (even before they start freshman year); very important to student success
(Duffey) SSI must grow to reward performance based funding.
-basis for infrastructure for programs
(Ramos) low in that nation for state support of higher ed. roll that plays in attainment goal?
-large cohort that have 90 credits or more, in good standing, and have not gotten a degree - financial issue; CSU forgave any debt below \$1,000 or put them on payment plan for over \$1,000, but still difficult to get them back once they disconnect; need-based financial aid could have assisted.
-low SSI causes cuts in administration - part-time faculty and less services; need additional resources - we have a formula that will hold schools accountable
Competency based education through WGU? Can CSU do it?
-IUC schools can do it - and better; already doing pieces

Shaffer
(Duffey) deferred maintenance?
-looking for innovative solutions: long-term solutions, public/private partnerships
Tuition guarantee?
-incredibly successful for families and students; average of CPI and cap - so this year, even if the cap is 0, can raise 1%; weren’t planning on 4 years of freeze and can’t react according for 75% of students

Clark State
(Ramos) training people for jobs that may not be there in the future (i.e. technology, changes in trade policy)?
-responsive to employers to change with their needs; using stackable certificates to diversify what do students need at community college to bring down their debt since not eligible for OCOG?
-costs \$17,000 a year to attend a community college (needs other than tuition - rent, living expense, etc.); the neediest students aren’t getting OCOG
value of short-term certificates?

-working on completion, know and own up to the problem; many students aren't completing any kind of credential, short-term certificate can serve as a first step; also opportunities to come back after receiving a degree

(Duffey) should we have a definition of "applied degree"? allow a 4-year veto only if they're offering the program?

-bachelors of applied science, ODHE could define; areas that community colleges focus on are currently needs that are not met

Public Testimony 3

Publishers

(Duffey) marketing of textbooks in Ohio?

-each of publishers have a sales force that meets with faculty

Any regulations on what sales people can do? Meals?

-train sales to follow same rules that would apply with legislators, treat faculty members just like any other public employees

\$25 threshold reporting - who do you report to?

-self-reporting

do professors pay for the textbooks they select? any limits on how many they get?

-No, they don't pay; no limits, but tracked so dozens aren't sent

are sample copies labeled so faculty can't resell?

-yes, they are labeled; increasingly, sampling is digital.

access codes on digital textbooks or supplemental material forcing the use of new editions every year?

-model is outdated and moving away from it

no relationship between the picker (faculty) and payer (students). how do we align the interests of faculty and students?

-faculty are becoming more sensitive to textbook affordable and the industry is also responding digital divide? having access to internet, devices, etc.?

-reluctance to change; language like their proposal can help make change a priority (under US Dept of Ed regulations)

like WGU, do we need promotion of this change if schools can already make these changes?

= 9-sends a significant signal from the legislature

viewpoint of OER?

-can supplement with copywrite material; don't know if OER would duplicate current available material

Professors

(Duffey) faculty as pickers, not payer. how do we align faculty with student financial interest?

-faculty is looking for ways to reduce cost of textbooks, especially using online resources; digital divide is a problem - many don't have internet at home or don't have a laptop

supportive of developing OER?

-probably support this, but are some obstacles to using

(Ramos) use of adjunct professors? correlation between tenured faculty and graduation rate?

-adjunct professors work very hard for very little money (UC Blue Ash \$2,500 a course), have to teach many courses, difficult to have office hours with no time and space; losing money to athletics

Dan Dodd

(Ramos) CCP opt-out for schools that don't take state money?

-most schools he represents don't take Ed Choice scholarships, options for schools

Gov vetoed last time - have you worked with him?

-issue raised was parents not knowing the primary school they enrolled in doesn't participate in CCP - require notification and then market takes over (if school doesn't participate and they lose students, they will start to offer); or could be a condition of Ed Choice

Chancellor

From: Myers, Marisa
Sent: Thursday, May 4, 2017 12:14 PM
To: Kasich, Shawn
Subject: Higher Ed Budget Provisions

Sick Leave

Reduces the amount of sick leave employees of state institutions of higher education are entitled to receive from 4.6 hours to 3.1 hours for each 80 hours of service – essentially a reduction from 15 to 10 days per year, mirroring what most state employee receive.

Prohibits a university from:

- 1.) Providing sick leave in addition to what's specified in law;
- 2.) Agreeing to a provision in a collective bargaining agreement with additional sick leave.

Financial Disclosure

Requires a faculty member of a state institution of higher education that assigns textbooks to file a financial disclosure statement and pay the \$35 filing fee. The statement must include the source of each gift over \$25, travel expenses, and meals and beverages received.

Marisa Myers

Majority Caucus Policy Advisor | Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger
Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215
p. 614.728.5523 | e. Marisa.Myers@ohiohouse.gov

From: Yogmour, Andrew
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2017 4:26 PM
To: Myers, Marisa
CC: Reed, Bob
Subject: FW: Committee Minutes_5.9.17
Attachments: Committee Minutes_5.9.17.docx

Marisa:

The bill briefing document for HB 42 had The Buckeye Institute listed as an opponent, but they testified as interested party.

Sincerely,

Andrew Yogmour
Legislative Aide
State Rep. Robert Cole Sprague
83rd House District
(614) 466-3819

From: Reed, Bob
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2017 3:38 PM
To: Yogmour, Andrew <Andrew.Yogmour@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Committee Minutes_5.9.17

I have Buckeye as IP.

Ohio House of Representatives



Committee Minutes

COMMITTEE: Economic Development, Commerce and Labor

CHAIRMAN: Ron Young

DATE: May 9, 2017

TIME: 1:30 PM

ROOM: Room 017

The Economic Development, Commerce and Labor Committee to order at 1:33 pm. Chairman Young announced that overflow was available next door in room 018. The Clerk called the roll and a quorum was present.

Chairman Young asked the committee to look over the minutes from the April 25th Committee Meeting. Hearing no objections or changes, the minutes were accepted.

The Chair called House Bill 163 for its first hearing. Representatives Roegner and Riedel were called upon to provide sponsor testimony. Multiple questions were asked by Reps. Lapore-Hagan, Sheehy, West, Kelly, and Arndt. That concluded the first hearing on House Bill 163.

The Chair called for House Bill 77 for its first hearing. Vice Chairman DeVitis moved to accept L_132_0061-1 as the working substitute bill. Rep. Rutherford, sponsor of the bill, gave a brief explanation of why the substitute bill was necessary. Hearing no objection to adopting the substitute bill it became the bill moving forward. Chairman Young invited Rep. Rutherford to continue with sponsor testimony. This was followed by questions by Representatives Kelly, Greenspan and West and Chairman Young. That concluded the first hearing on House Bill 77.

The Chair called House Bill 42 for its fifth hearing. Chairman Young called Greg Lawson, Policy Fellow at the Buckeye Institute to offer Interested Party Testimony. Questions were asked by Representatives West and Hood. The chair noted that opponent testimony was provided by Mr. Ed Barker. Representative Kelly moved to amend House Bill 42 with AM0250 which would set an effective date of July 1, 2018. Without objection, the amendment was adopted and became of the bill. Representative Reece moved to amend House Bill 42 with AM0085 which would cause for the Department of Commerce to set price caps on used tires.

Chairman Young called for a recess at 2:41pm of ten minutes more or less. Committee resumed at 2:50pm.

Vice Chair DeVitis spoke to the amendment and then moved to table the amendment. Hearing an objection, chairman Young asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote to table the amendment was 9 yeas and 6 nays. Following the question from the Chair "what is the pleasure of the

committee" Vice-Chair DeVitis moved to report Substitute HB 42 favorably out of committee. The Clerk Called the Roll and the vote on record was 11 yeas and 4 nays.

The Chair called House Bill 2 for its 6th Hearing. Vice Chair DeVitis moved to adopt L_132_0195-9. Hearing no objection, the sub bill was used as the working legislation in committee. Chairman Young called on Don Boyd, from the Ohio Chamber to provide proponent testimony and explanation of the sub bill. Hearing no questions, the Chair called on Fred Gittis, Legal Counsel for the Ohio Employment Lawyers Associations to offer interested party testimony. Hearing no questions, Chairman Young called on Leonard Hubert, Chairman of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission to offer interested party testimony. No questions were asked of Mr. Hubert. Chair Young pointed out that there was additional written interested party testimony provided by John VanDoorn, with the Ohio Association for Justice.

Chairman Young called for a recess at 3:15pm for five minutes more or less.

Chairman Young called the Committee back to order at 3:18. He asked what was the pleasure of the committee. Vice-Chair DeVitis moved to report Sub HB 2 favorably out of committee. The clerk was asked to call the roll. The vote on record was 10 yeas and 5 nays.

Having concluded the business of the day, the House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor Committee was adjourned at 3:25 pm.

Ron Young, Chair
Secretary

Rep. Lepore-Hagan, Committee

Cc: House Clerk
Committee Members
Committee Clerk
Speaker's Office
Ast. Majority Floor Leader's
Office
Caucus Staff
Bill Sponsor
Legislative Information Systems
LSC
Press Room
Minority Leader's Office

From: Myers, Marisa
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2017 4:34 PM
To: Yogmour, Andrew
CC: Reed, Bob
Subject: RE: Committee Minutes_5.9.17

Hi Andrew,

The website had opponent, but looks like it's been updated and there's no document attached. Bob, do we have testimony or a witness slip for Greg on May 9th?

Thanks!

From: Yogmour, Andrew
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2017 4:26 PM
To: Myers, Marisa <marisa.myers@ohiohouse.gov>
Cc: Reed, Bob <Bob.Reed@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: FW: Committee Minutes_5.9.17

Marisa:

The bill briefing document for HB 42 had The Buckeye Institute listed as an opponent, but they testified as interested party.

Sincerely,

Andrew Yogmour
Legislative Aide
State Rep. Robert Cole Sprague
83rd House District
(614) 466-3819

From: Reed, Bob
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Thanks, Marisa. I'm not sure about testimony.

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From: Reed, Bob
Sent: Thursday, June 1, 2017 7:50 AM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: RE: Committee Minutes_5.9.17

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Anyway... ☺

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From: Myers, Marisa
Sent: Thursday, June 1, 2017 10:04 AM
To: Reed, Bob
Subject: RE: Committee Minutes_5.9.17

Ah gotcha. Thanks!

From: Reed, Bob
Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2017 7:50 AM
To: Myers, Marisa <marisa.myers@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: RE: Committee Minutes_5.9.17

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Subject: Committee Minutes _5.9.17

I have Buckeye as IP.

From: Springhetti, Blake
Sent: Friday, June 2, 2017 1:29 PM
To: House_All
Subject: Co-Sponsor Request: Reduced Mandated Sick Days for Public Employees
Attachments: Co-Sponsor Request - Reducing Mandated Sick Days for Public Employees.pdf



**Representative Derek Merrin
47th District**

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Derek Merrin
DATE: June 2, 2017
RE: Co-Sponsor Request: Reduced Mandated Sick Days for Public Employees

I will soon introduce legislation to align public employees' sick day allotment with the standard allotment for state public employees.

State employees receive 10 sick days per year, while many local government employees receive an excessive 15 sick days per year (3 weeks). This legislation makes 10 sick days per year the standard across the board - impacting county, municipal, civil service township, school district, and university employees. This will help create fairness between state and local government employees. The bill contains a provision that restricts collective bargaining agreements from requiring local governments to provide more than the state mandated number of 10 sick days annually.

By forcing local governments/taxpayers to provide an excessive number of sick days, the state is driving-up local governments' costs. You will be hard pressed to find any private-

sector business that provides 15 sick days annually. Also, government employees receive additional, generous amounts of personal days and vacation leave. The legislature created this excessive mandate and it is time for us to fix it. Please join with me to support a reasonable standard and provide relief to our local governments.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact my Legislative Aide, Blake Springhetti, at Blake.Springhetti@ohiohouse.gov or at (614) 466-1731 by **Tuesday, June 13**.

Sincerely,
Derek Merrin



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47th District

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Sincerely,
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From: Springhetti, Blake
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 2:32 PM
To: House_All
Subject: EXTENDED: Co-Sponsor Request: Reduced Mandated Sick Days for Public Employees
Attachments: Co-Sponsor Request - Reducing Mandated Sick Days for Public Employees.pdf

The deadline to co-sponsor has been extended to **Tuesday, June 20 at 5pm!**



Representative Derek Merrin
47th District

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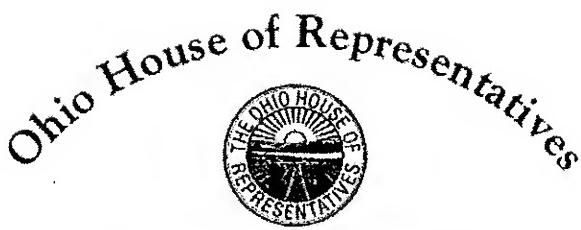
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Sincerely,
Derek Merrin

From: Ohio House Republican Communications
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 4:53 PM
Subject: GOP Week in Review 6/12/17 – 6/18/17



OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Majority Communications Department

GOP Week in Review

6/12/17 – 6/18/17

Columbus Dispatch: The Daily Briefing: Ohio Senate president talks insurance mandates at White House

He was joined by Sen. Steve Wilson, R-Maineville, Rep. Mark Romanchuk, R-Mansfield, and Rea Hederman Jr. of the Buckeye Institute.

Cincinnati Business Courier: Ohio dogs soon may get their day on restaurant patios

"I'm a huge animal advocate. There's a number of other states and municipalities that allow it. It's all over Europe," Lanese told me on Tuesday. "Why not allow restaurants to make the decision for themselves? They know their customers best."

Columbus Underground: New bill would allow dogs on restaurant patios

"This legislation gives businesses the freedom to decide for themselves whether or not to allow dogs on their patios," said State Representative Laura Lanese (R-Grove City), who sponsored the bill. "It is also a recognition of the importance of animals in our lives. We already have pet-friendly hotels, pet-friendly parks, and pet-friendly events. It's a good opportunity for marketing our state as pet-friendly for tourism purposes as many travelers want to bring their pets along with them while they travel."

WSYX: Lawmakers looking to allow dogs to dine at restaurants

The sponsor of the bill, Rep. Laura Lanese (R - Grove City) said she started working on the bill after hearing from several restaurant owners who had only recently learned they couldn't have dogs on the patio. She said she understands some people won't want to eat with dogs around.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: Ohio budget bill would expand wrongful conviction payouts

Rep. Bill Seitz, the Cincinnati Republican who sponsored the 2003 bill, said the court got it wrong. The legislature always intended procedural errors, regardless of when they occurred in the case, to make someone eligible for compensation.

WDTN: Ohio congressman hailed a hero for helping Scalise after Virginia shooting
“We’re at a time in our country,” Rep. Niraj Antani said. “Where we all just need to take a step back.”

Youngstown Vindicator: As senior population grows, so, too, must commitment to elder-abuse prevention

Three months ago, State Rep. Wes Rutherford, R-Hamilton, introduced House Bill 78, popularly known as the Elder Justice Act. It includes reforms to laws governing procedures of the JFS and Adult Protective Services in all 88 counties to better protect seniors from mistreatment.

The Daily Reporter: Lawmaker seeks tax credit to boost local voting

Rep. Steve Hambley, R-Brunswick, sponsor of House Bill 185, cited Ohio’s non-presidential election turnout — 40.37 percent — as justification for his bill.

Perry Tribune: Representatives introduce legislation on right to carry for off-duty officers

State Representatives Larry Householder (R-Glenford) and Laura Lanese (R-Grove City) have introduced legislation to protect the right of off-duty peace officers to carry a concealed weapon.

Dayton Daily News: Backers want Ohio Aviation Hall of Fame at future monument site

State Rep. Rick Perales, R-Beavercreek, has introduced a bill establishing a nine-member board to oversee the Hall of Fame and a 2022 deadline for construction.

Daily Advocate: Guest column from Rep. Keith Faber: Old Glory withstands the changes of time

As public servants of this great nation, our loyalty to “Old Glory” is of the utmost importance; we must uphold the values it represents.

Richland Source: Guest column from Rep. Mark Romanchuk: Remembering the significance of the flag

To many, the American flag is the ultimate symbol of the values that our nation was built on—democracy, equality, freedom, and more. Every day, it flies above us, standing strong in the face of the adversities our nation encounters.

Times Reporter: Guest column from Rep. Al Landis: Legislation strengthens our families and communities

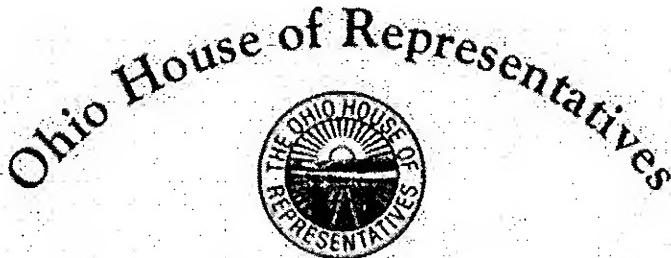
An important part of the success of the House Republican Caucus is to have a focused, member-driven policy platform that serves as the guiding principle behind priority

legislation. Earlier this year, our caucus unveiled the Buckeye Pathway, our policy agenda for the 132nd General Assembly.

News Journal: Guest column from Speaker Rosenberger: Wilmington's indeed split-tacular

A banana divided in two, topped with three scoops of ice cream, and finished with chocolate syrup, whipped cream, and a cherry. What could possibly be more delicious on a hot summer day? To us in Wilmington, what makes the banana split so special is that it was originally created right here in 1907.

From: Rep87
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 1:35 PM
To: GOP_All
Subject: Medicaid Expansion Enrollment Freeze Information
Attachments: Freeze Brief.pdf; We The People Convention Expansion Freeze Poll.pdf



Memorandum

To: House Republican Caucus
From: Representative Wes Goodman
Date: June 30th, 2017
Re: Medicaid Expansion Enrollment Freeze Information

I would first of all like to everyone who has offered their support to the Medicaid expansion enrollment freeze. As I said on this House floor, this is the most impactful action taken by any state to roll back and stop the Affordable Care Act, fulfilling promises we have all made to ensure a higher quality of care for all Ohioans. I thank you for your courage in joining me in the fight to ensure that our citizens are free to make their own healthcare choices, and that our Medicaid program is refocused on serving the truly vulnerable.

By now I am sure you have heard from detractors claiming that the freeze is not in the best interest of Ohioans. I encourage you to take a look at the following resources that support our decision and make clear that an expansion freeze is sound public policy.

- Attached: *Freeze Brief*, provides a general outline and talking points on the expansion freeze.
- Attached: *We the People Convention Expansion Freeze Poll*. This poll was taken yesterday, June 29th, and shows that 60.6% of all Ohioans and 81% of

- all Republicans do NOT want Governor Kasich to line-item veto the expansion freeze.
- Articles by Buckeye Institute Executive Vice President Rea Hederman Jr, published in The Hill
 - Highlighting issues with the sustainability and level of care provided by Medicaid: <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/healthcare/336600-medicare-doesnt-work-people-who-are-on-it-dont-have-better>
 - Highlighting and analyzing Ohio's role in "blazing the trail" on Medicaid reform: <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/healthcare/339889-ohio-is-blazing-the-trail-on-healthcare-reform>
 - National Review article analyzing the fallaciousness of the bombastic claim, "people will die!":
<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/448952/obamacare-repeal-will-not-kill-thousands>
 - Note that this article focuses on the claims being made about the Federal healthcare plans. This claim is even more detached from reality when used to decry our expansion freeze, which allows those currently covered to maintain coverage as long as they are eligible.
 - Article by Foundation for Government Accountability VP of Research Jonathan Ingram, explaining how the expansion has drawn funding away from the truly vulnerable: <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/healthcare/320620-freezing-obamacare-expansion-will-save-taxpayers-and-the-truly>
 - Article by Foundation for Government Accountability Senior Fellow Sam Adolphsen, presenting evidence that the expansion may actually exacerbate the opioid crisis: <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/state-local-politics/339892-want-to-end-the-opioid-epidemic-start-by-freezing>
 - Poll from the Foundation for Government Accountability, showing that voters support freezing the Medicaid expansion: <https://thefga.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/National-MedEx-Freeze-Poll-1-23-17.pdf>
 - An op-ed that I recently penned that was published by the Daily Signal: <http://dailysignal.com/2017/06/30/ohio-already-rolling-back-parts-obamacare-states-can/>

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to joining you next week to override the Governor's veto, if need be.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance to you. My cell phone is (419) 210-0800 and I am available for questions anytime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wes".

Medicaid Expansion Freeze Brief

What the Freeze Does

- Prohibits the Medicaid program from covering the Group VIII (expansion) population beginning on July 1, 2018.
- Exempts those with diagnosed mental illnesses or drug addiction, allowing them to enroll after the freeze date.
- Allows those expansion enrollees enrolled by July 1, 2018 to maintain their coverage until they become ineligible or the enhanced federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for the Group VIII population is reduced by federal legislation.

Freezing expansion protects the truly needy

- Ohio's Medicaid waiting list enrollment sits at nearly 60,000. These are Ohioans with severe intellectual and developmental disabilities who aren't getting the care they need.
- Meanwhile, Ohio is spending billions on welfare for able-bodied (mostly childless) adults.
- Every penny spent on these adults is a penny that can't go to help Ohio's truly vulnerable.
- An enrollment freeze would immediately begin to make the truly needy a priority once again by moving able-bodied adults back to independence and freeing up limited resources for the vulnerable.

Freezing expansion protects taxpayers

- Ohio's Medicaid expansion has been overbudget since Day One.
- From January 2014 through March 2017, total expansion costs ran \$6.1 billion higher than originally projected in 2013 – an overrun of 94 percent. By the end of the year, that overrun will total a whopping \$8.3 billion.
- State taxpayers are now on the hook for 5% of these costs, with that share growing to 10% by 2020. Although the state has only been paying a share of the cost for a few months, the state's share has already run \$38 million over projections -- an overrun of 125 percent. That overrun is projected to increase to \$145 million by the end of the year.
- Congress is poised to repeal the enhanced funding for expansion altogether. The House version of the American Healthcare Act (AHCA) would eliminate enhanced funding for new enrollees after 2020. The Senate version eliminates enhanced funding through a 3-year phase out, beginning in 2021.
- An enrollment freeze would stop the bleeding immediately, reducing costs and giving taxpayers much-needed relief. Based on the experiences in other states, freezing expansion enrollment at the end of the fiscal year will save between \$4.2 billion and \$5.5 billion over the next biennium. The state share of those savings would total between \$243 million and \$315 million.

Freezing expansion protects enrollees

- An enrollment freeze would allow current enrollees to stay on the program as long as they remain eligible.
- This avoids disruption for enrollees, allowing them to maintain enrollment until their situation improves enough that they can obtain insurance through the individual market or an employer.

Freezing expansion is politically popular

- A national 2017 poll found that voters support freezing Medicaid expansion enrollment by nearly two-to-one margins (53% to 33%).

Freezing expansion is practical and possible

- Other states have used enrollment freezes to unwind pre-ObamaCare expansions to childless adults and to unwind S-CHIP expansions.
- Freezes were previously approved by President Bush and President Obama.
- CMS can grant a waiver to allow states to freeze enrollment.
- CMS is set to release new guidance that will provide state options to freeze enrollment and reduce eligibility levels in the expansion.

Freezing expansion would have no effect on the drug addicted and mentally ill

- Mental health and addiction services accounted for only 5.62% of total expansion spending in 2016.
- Conference committee's version of the budget exempts individuals with mental health and drug addictions from the freeze, allowing them to enroll or reenroll past the freeze date of July 1, 2018.

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, June 29, 2017

POLL SHOWS OHIOANS – ESPECIALLY REPUBLICANS – DEMAND MEDICAID EXPANSION FREEZE

Akron, OH -- Tom Zawistowski, President of the We the People Convention announced the results of a statewide Ohio poll tonight concerning the Medicaid Expansion Freeze that was included in the Budget just passed on Wednesday by the Ohio House and the Ohio Senate. Contrary to polls put out by medical groups and others who benefit financially from Medicaid Expansion, the We the People Convention Poll shows that 60.6% of all Ohioans do NOT want Governor Kasich to line-item veto the Medicaid Expansion Freeze in the budget, which does not cut anyone's Medicaid benefits, but simply stops growing the program that is already \$7 Billion over budget. Furthermore, the survey showed that if Governor Kasich does line-item veto the Medicaid Expansion Freeze, a plurality of all Ohioans, 51.7% to 49.3%, said that they would want the Ohio House and Ohio Senate to reconvene next week and override the Governor's veto.

Since the state is controlled by Republicans and the Budget was pass with only Republican votes, all of them from Governor Kasich, to Speaker Rosenberger and Senate President Obhof, and every Republican in the Ohio House and Ohio Senate, will get a very strong message from the poll results from their Republican voters. A total of 81% of Republican voters do NOT want Governor Kasich to line-item veto the Medicaid Expansion Freeze. Then an equally strong 68.5% of Republican voters want Republicans in the Ohio House and the Ohio Senate to Override the Governor's Veto if required.

Commenting on the poll, Zawistowski said, "Ohioans understand that Governor Kasich's Medicaid Expansion is simply unsustainable. We credit the Republican members of the Ohio House and Ohio Senate, and their leadership, for recognizing that someone has to stop Kasich before he bankrupts Ohio. While we in the TEA Party/Liberty movement believe that Medicaid Expansion should be ended -- its not Medicaid it is welfare expansion -- we were convinced that a first step of just stopping the growth of the program, without cutting anyone's benefits, was a "caring way" to take a first step as our Governor likes to say. We fully expect him to line-item veto the Medicaid Expansion Freeze because John Kasich sees no reason to ever stop giving other people's money away while pretending he cares so much about people -- but never mentioning the tax payers who pay for all his misguided spending. Therefore, we also fully expect, and all Republicans should expect, all 59 House Members who voted for the budget with the Freeze in it on Wednesday, and ALL 7 members who did not vote for the budget, to join all 23 members of the Senate next Thursday, July 6th and impose some financial sanity on the Governor by overriding his veto and representing their constituents -- particularly the tax payers in their districts who are paying the bill for this irresponsible and unnecessary spending."

This Ohio poll was conducted for the We the People Convention, Inc. by TRZ Communications Services, Inc. of Akron, Ohio which was the polling company that first predicted the Trump Ohio landslide victory in last year's Presidential election. This automated poll was conducted on Thursday, June 29, 2017 between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM. The poll was designed to gather public opinion on the issue of Freezing Medicaid Expansion in Ohio. Calls were placed to 45,105 randomly selected voters from our data base of 4.5 million current land line phone numbers in Ohio. Of the 9,901 who answered our call, 625 respondents completed our automated poll, a 6.3% response rate. The poll has a margin of error of \pm 4.0% at the 95% confidence level. Demographically 26.99% of respondents vote Democrat, 29.6% vote Republican and 43% do not affiliate with any party. The gender breakdown was 57.68% women and 42.32% men. Results were gathered from 80 of the 88 Counties in Ohio. Every age group from 24 year olds to 90 year olds were surveyed.

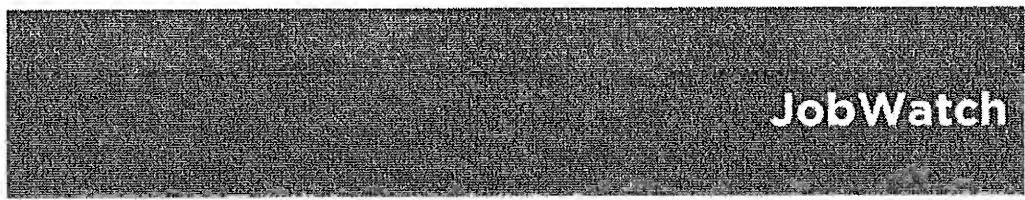
| Answer | Number | Percent | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|--------------------------|--------|---------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Veto the Freeze | 246 | 39.4% | 35 - 18% | 90 - 52.3% | 121 - 45% |
| Do NOT Veto the Freeze | 379 | 60.6% | 149 - 81% | 82 - 47.7% | 148 - 55% |
| Override the Veto | 317 | 51.7% | 126 - 68.5% | 65 - 37.8% | 126 - 46.8% |
| Do NOT Override the Veto | 308 | 49.3% | 58 - 31.5% | 107 - 62.2% | 142 - 53.2% |

Source: <http://www.wethepeopleconvention.org/>

From: Policy Matters Ohio
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: JobWatch: Ohio job growth picks up in June

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Ohio job growth picks up in June

Contact: [Zach Schiller](#)

216.361.9801

Ohio posted a solid job gain in June, helping reverse job losses earlier in the year. According to jobs data from a survey of employers released today by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Ohio added 11,500 jobs last month, the strongest gain since last July. However, the increase still leaves the state well behind the growth trend in previous years and national job performance. For the second month in a row, a majority of the Ohio gain was due to increases in public sector jobs (+6,100).

"In recent years, Ohio has been unable to sustain strong job gains for more than a few months at a time," said Zach Schiller, research director for Policy Matters Ohio. "Monthly numbers are volatile and subject to later revision, so an evaluation of the longer-term is more meaningful. While the June gain was encouraging, job growth for the year remains tepid at best."

Ohio has added just 56,800 jobs over the past year. That amounts to a 1 percent increase, compared to a national gain of 1.6 percent over the same time period. In the first six months of the year, the state gained 25,100 jobs, compared to more than 36,000 in the first half of 2016. And last year's overall gain was the smallest since the end of the 2007 recession.

"The state job market needs to continue its recent rebound for more than a month or two to provide the employment opportunities Ohioans need," Schiller said. "Growth in government jobs illustrates the importance of the public sector in providing not only jobs but the education, infrastructure and services needed for a strong economy. Unfortunately, the General Assembly missed an opportunity in the recently enacted state budget to reverse its tax-cutting policies that have undercut such needed investments."

A separate survey of households produced less positive news. The unemployment rate increased to 5.0 percent, up from 4.9 percent in May, as the number of unemployed grew and employment fell (this survey of households can deliver different results than the employer survey that showed a good gain for the month). And the size of the labor force shrank by 7,000, reversing the recent growth trend. The number of people working or actively looking for work is down 192,000 from the beginning of recession almost a decade ago.

"The labor force decline is a negative sign after months of growth," Schiller said. "We need the labor market to strengthen further so that more Ohioans join it."

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#/#/
Policy Matters Ohio is a nonprofit, nonpartisan state policy research institute
with offices in Cleveland and Columbus.

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FORM
The FORM Group

3631 Perkins Avenue
= 9 Cleveland, OH | 44114 US

This email was sent to marisa.myers@ohiohouse.gov.
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

From: Rep74
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 3:18 PM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: FW: Message from Cell Phone OH (19375323089)
Attachments: VoiceMessage.wav

Marisa,

Attached is a voicemail from Rep. Dean's constituent Harold Snyder. He is a frequent friendly caller to our office, but Rep. Dean and I have been trying to figure out a way to address a sticky concern of his. If you have any ideas on how to address the situation legislatively or otherwise, we would be happy to consider them!

He lives in Xenia Township, which includes the unincorporated area of Wilberforce where two historically black institutions, Central State University & Wilberforce University, are located in Rep. Dean's district. Mr. Snyder wants to ensure that the college students are voting at their parents' address, rather than using their dorm address to raise his local taxes.

While it is definitely true that some students are registered at their dorm address because the University has provided their dorm address for commendations/resolutions and there is a higher potential for voter fraud due to college students' transient addresses, Rep. Dean is concerned that civil rights issues will come into play with any approach that restricts college students' right to vote beyond our voter ID law on the books. That explanation was not sufficient for Mr. Snyder.

Mr. Snyder's other main issue is getting a right-to-work law passed in Ohio. We have assured him that Rep. Dean is among numerous co-sponsors on HB 53 and HB 113, and will continue to push very strongly for hearings on those bills so that Ohio can join its neighbors in being a right-to-work state to retain a high quality workforce.

Thank you for your assistance!

Joe Michalowski
Legislative Aide
State Representative Bill Dean | Ohio House District 74
77 S. High Street, 12th Floor | Columbus, OH 43215-6108
Office: (614) 466-1470 | joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov

From: Cisco Unity Connection Messaging System [mailto:unityconnection@unityohr]
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 5:08 AM

To: rep74la@unityohr

Subject: Message from Cell Phone OH (19375323089)

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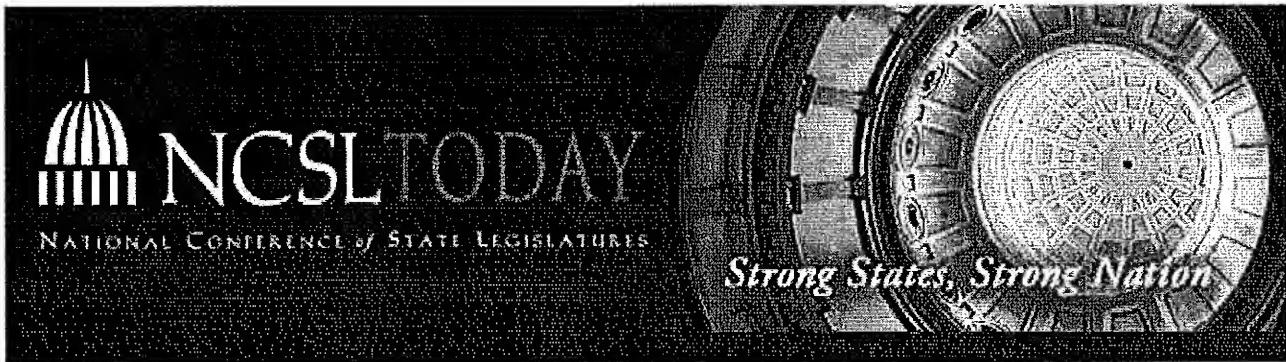
Subject: Message from Cell Phone OH (19375323089)

From: NCSL TODAY
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 10:55 AM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: States take action to combat child abuse

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TOP NEWS Sept. 20, 2017

States take action to combat child abuse

Stateline

Spurred by high-profile cases of endangered children and chronically overworked caseworkers, many states have taken steps this year to shield children from abuse and neglect, including adding caseworkers, tightening reporting requirements and expanding the definition of "abuse."

NCSL resources on state strategies to prevent child injuries and abuse.

Massachusetts attorney general sues Equifax over data hack

CNBC

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey filed a lawsuit on Tuesday against credit reporting firm Equifax following a breach that exposed the personal data of as many as 143 million people, including 3 million in the state.

States face fiscal challenges as Congress weighs tax reform

The Hill

State governments are likely to face a new round of budget cuts and belt-tightening as revenue growth slows, due in part to uncertainty over whether Congress will reform the federal tax code.

Wisconsin appeals court upholds 'right-to-work' law, dealing blow to unions

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel



INJURED

Preventing child and adolescent injuries and violence

As more evidence becomes available about the long-lasting effects of early harmful events—including their personal and financial impacts—policymakers are increasingly exploring whether states have a role in preventing and mitigating such experiences.

GOP Gov. Scott Walker and Republican lawmakers in 2015 approved the law, which prohibits labor contracts that require all workers in certain job classifications — including those who don't want to belong to a union — to pay union fees.

NCSL right-to-work resources.

Tennessee reinstates work requirements for food stamp recipients

Nashville Tennessean

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam and administration officials today announced plans to reinstate federal work requirements for "able-bodied" adults without dependents for eligibility in the federal food stamp program.

The next big technology to transform government

Governing

It's called blockchain. Some say it will have a bigger impact than the internet.



State efforts promote hybrid and electric vehicles

Register now for the NCSL Capitol Forum Dec. 10-13 in Coronado, Calif.

Capitol to Capitol: One last attempt to repeal Obamacare



National Voter Registration Day is fast-approaching

Given that voting is the foundation of the American republic, it is fitting that we will soon celebrate National Voter Registration Day on Sept. 26.



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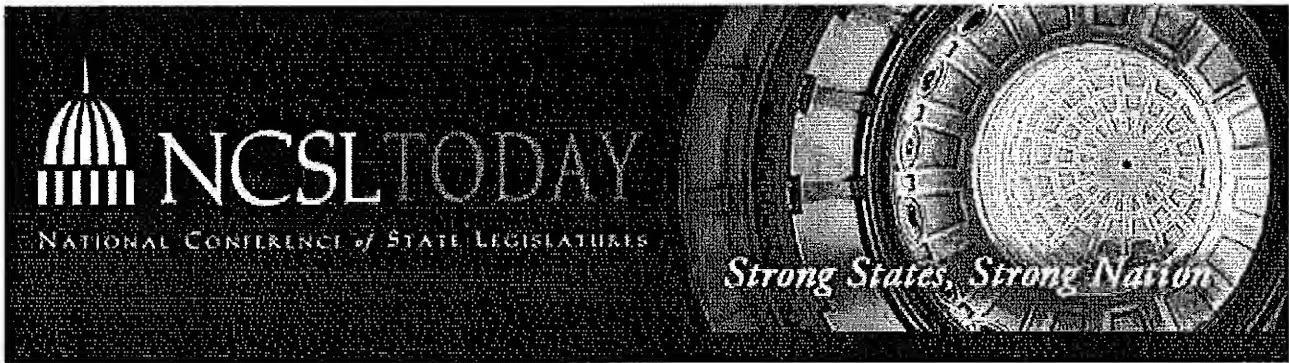
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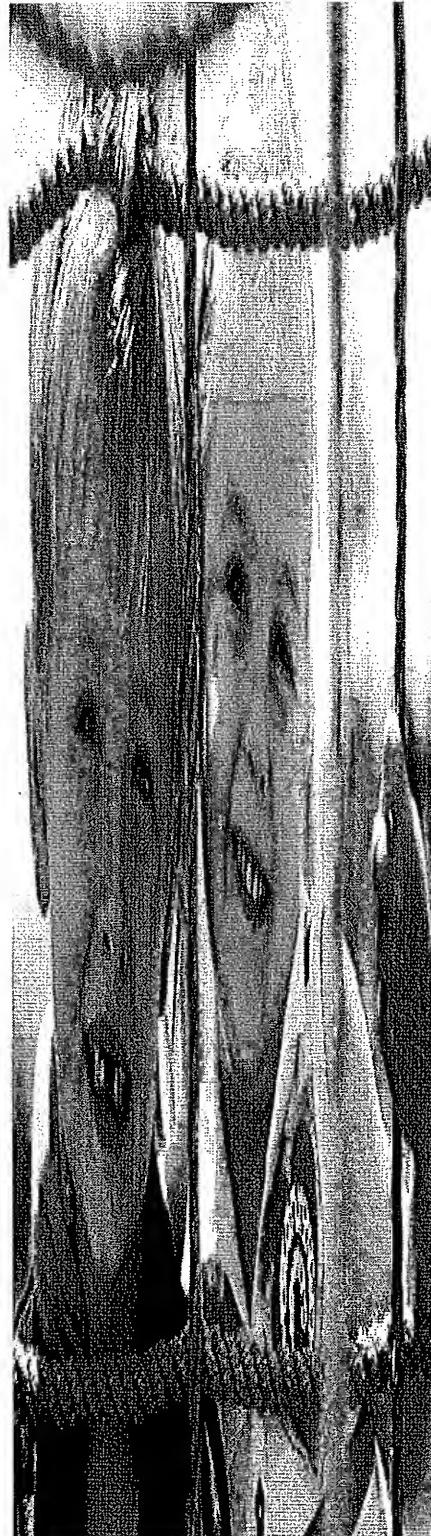
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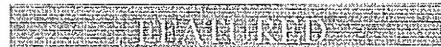
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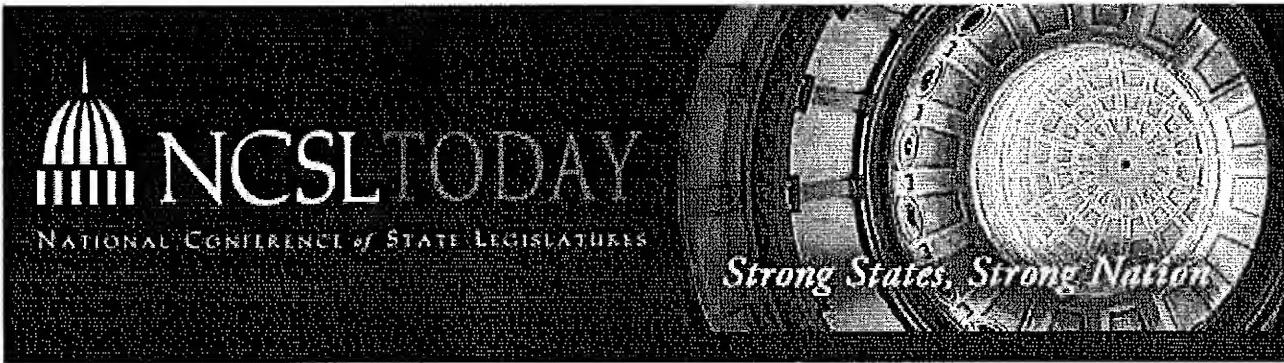
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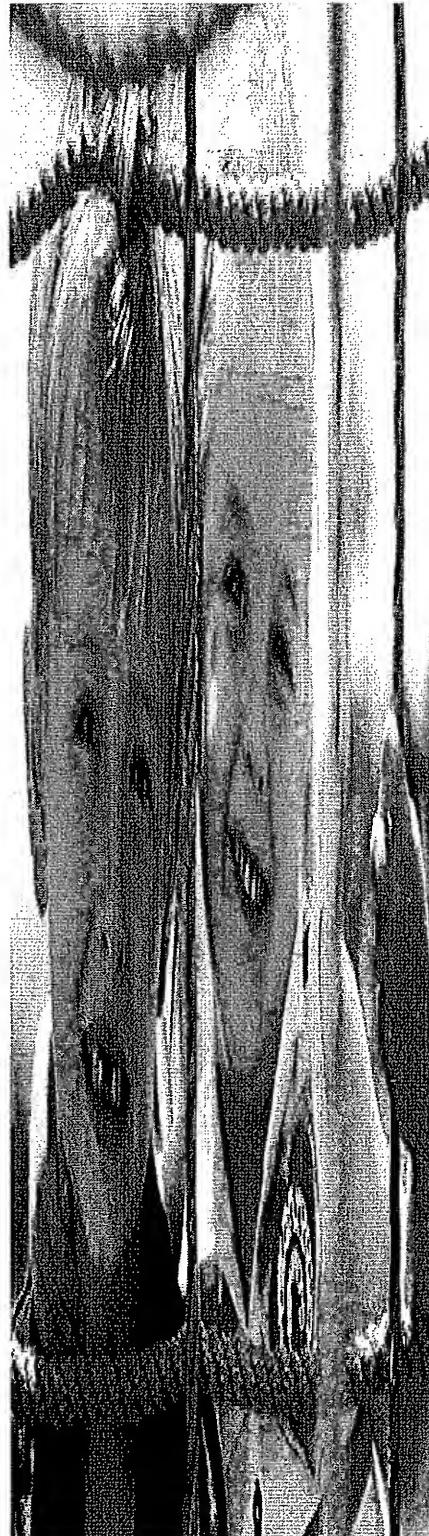
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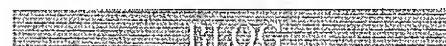
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7700 East First Place, Denver, CO 80230

From: Rossman, Brent
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 8:32 AM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: HB 280 Interested Parties
Attachments: HB 280 Interested Parties.docx

Hi Marisa,

As you may know, today is my last day working for the House. I'm moving on to work at the Ashbrook Center at Ashland University. Rep. Goodman is currently awaiting approval for my replacement, and it's not likely that he'll be able to start soon. Brian Hall will be covering the phones and constituent work until then.

Craig told me that you could keep an eye on HB 280 for us until there is a replacement LA in the office. We just had sponsor testimony on the bill last week, and are hoping to have proponent testimony when committee meets again. I have already requested a place on the next agenda with the chairman's office. Attached is my interested party list, so you know who to contact for proponent testimony. I imagine that that will really be all that needs to be done with this bill before there is a replacement. If there are any questions on the bill, please feel free to contact me today or on my cell after I'm gone.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank you again for the help and guidance that you provided at the end of last GA when I was helping out Rep. Maag. Although it was a short period of time, I really learned a lot about the committee process then, and I owe a lot of it to you.

Thank you,

Brent Rossman
Legislative Aide
Representative Wes Goodman
Ohio House of Representatives

District 87

Brent.Rossmann@ohiohouse.gov
Office: 614.644.6265
Cell: 419.561.0073

HB 280 Interested Parties

| Proponents | Interested Party | Opponent |
|--|---|-----------------|
| <p>Joel Picou</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rider from the district who brought the idea to Rep. Goodman • Willing to do proponent testimony • 419.563.6575 • thepicous@yahoo.com | <p>Ohio State Highway Patrol</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin Miller • 740.964.4116 • kdmiller@dps.ohio.gov | |
| <p>Kolman Fuzy, Abate of Ohio, Government Relations Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motorcycle advocacy group • Willing to testify • 614.332.0198 • legislativedirector@abate.com | <p>Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Gilchrist is their lobbyist: john.gilchrist@oacp.org • Heinz von Eckartsberg, HVonEckartsberg@dublin.oh.us | |
| <p>Michael Sayre, American Motorcyclist Association, Government Affairs Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motorcycle advocacy group • Supportive, but haven't said they would testify • Written testimony would be helpful • 202.220.1390 • MSayre@ama-cycle.org | | |
| Buckeye Sheriff's Association | | |
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From: Rossman, Brent
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 10:43 AM
To: House_All
Subject: Goodbye!
Attachments: IMG_2029.JPG

Good morning everyone,

Since I started in the House, I've had the Ashbrook Center's pocket Constitution and Declaration perched upon my desk. It's a neat little booklet that also contains Lincoln's Second Inaugural, the Gettysburg Address, and excerpts from some of Thomas Jefferson's letters. I've turned to it many times for inspiration, and occasionally, for work purposes. I carried this same pocket constitution while I was in college, when I was just beginning to understand the depth of meaning contained in our Founding documents.

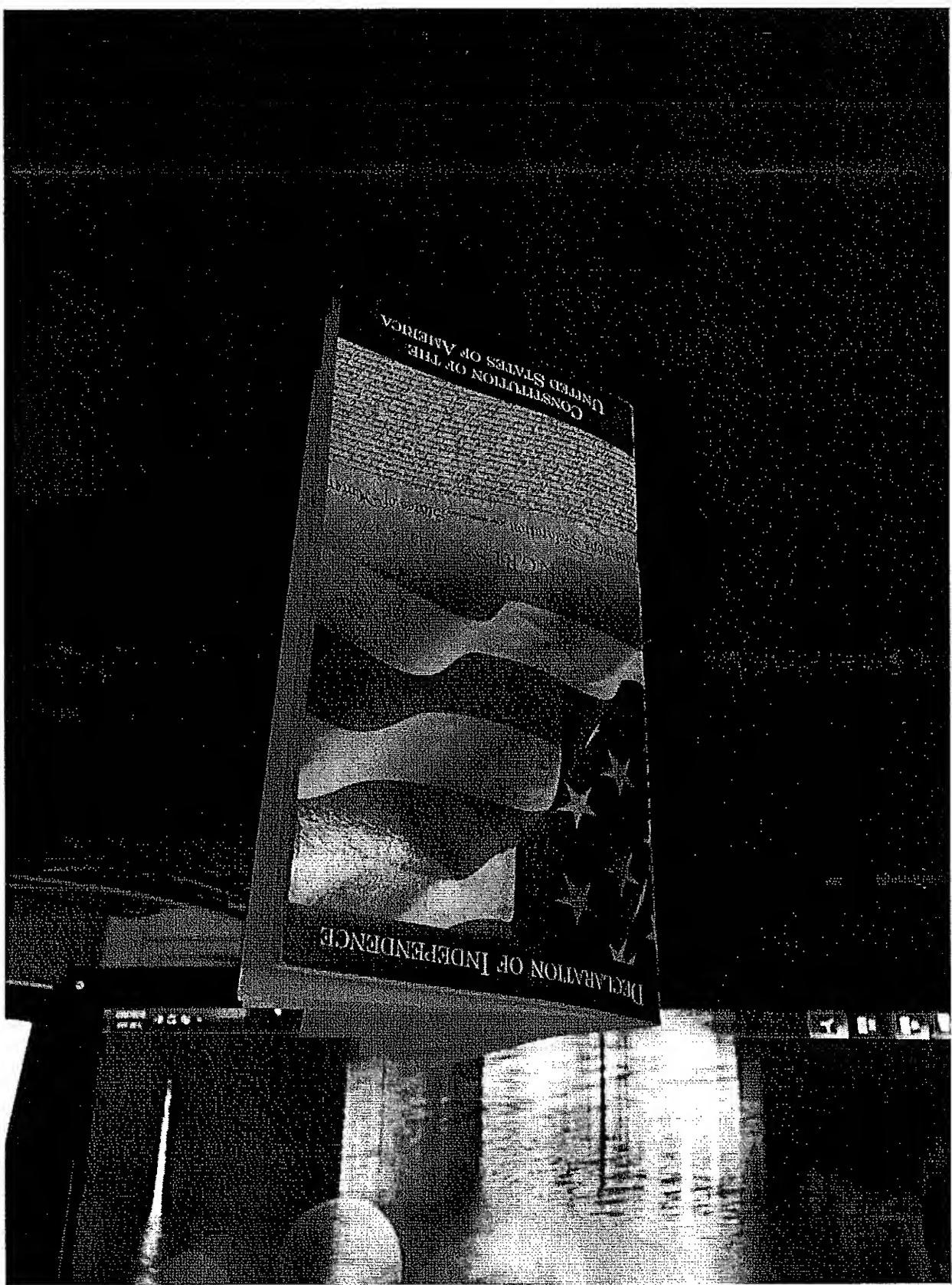
Now, I am excited to carry this same little booklet back to the Ashbrook Center to embark on a new chapter in my career. With it, I carry back a deeper understanding of the legislative process, and great experiences in politics. It still astounds me that we all have had the opportunity to help make law and improve the lives of 11.5 million people. I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Ohio. These experiences will all help me with my new mission of cultivating good civics education in our country through the use of primary source documents.

Better yet, I'll also carry with this little booklet memories and friendships that will last a lifetime. I'll miss the House, but I won't be far away. Feel free to stay in touch. My cell is 419-561-0073 and my personal email is brossman4913@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Brent Rossman
Legislative Aide
Representative Wes Goodman
Ohio House of Representatives
District 87

Brent.Rossman@ohiohouse.gov
Office: 614.644.6265
Cell: 419.561.0073



From: GovLoop
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 11:04 AM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: The Digital Transformation Gap

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GovLoop Resources

NEW REPORT

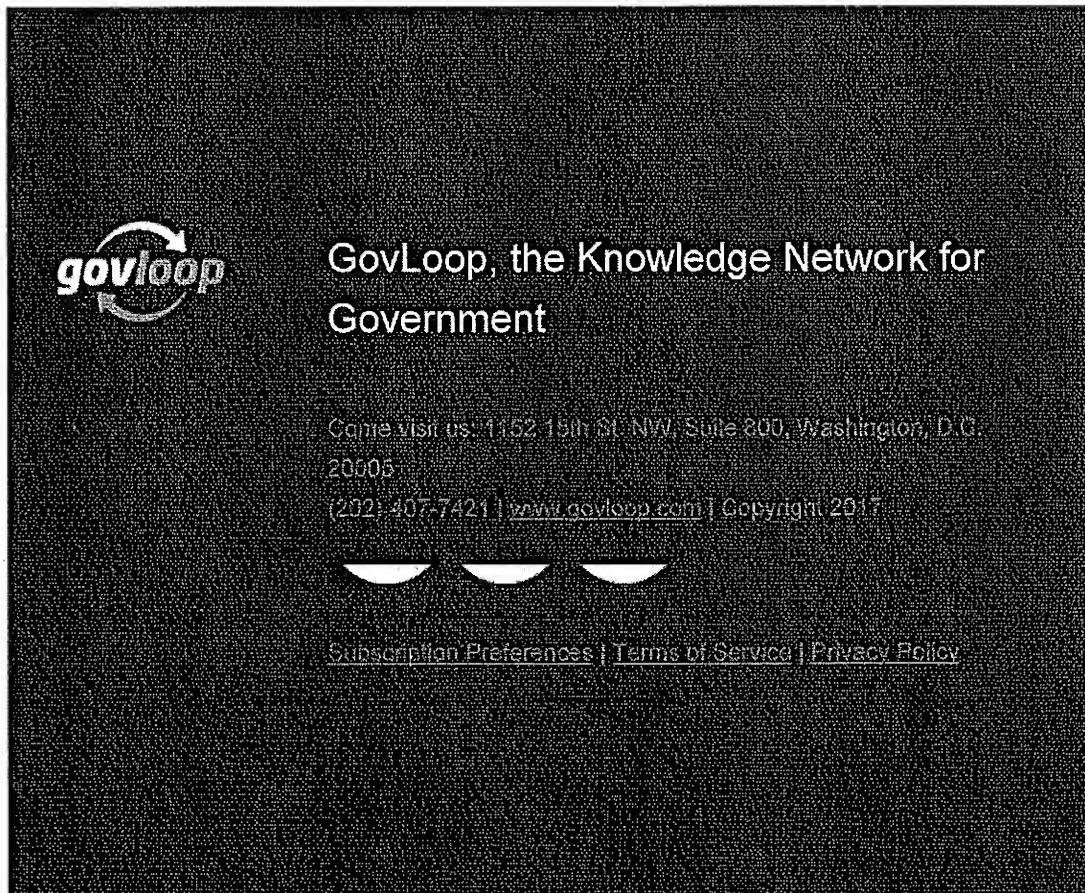
From Digital Transformation Efforts to Real Outcomes

Government recognizes the need to prioritize digital transformation in order to improve services and overall productivity. And yet many agencies have yet to see real outcomes.

So how can gov address the disconnect between priorities and outcomes?

Download this new report to discover the obstacles agencies face in pursuit of digital transformation and how to overcome these challenges.

Download Now



From: Myers, Marisa
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 1:03 PM
To: Rossman, Brent
Subject: RE: HB 280 Interested Parties

Hey Brent,

I hadn't heard, but congratulations! I'll keep an eye on HB 280. It was great getting to know you and I was very impressed with you in the short time we worked together for Rep. Maag. Don't be a stranger around here!

All the best,

Marisa

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Office: 614.644.6265
Cell: 419.561.0073

From: Max Behlke
Sent: Monday, October 2, 2017 6:01 PM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: NCS Capitol to Capitol: Congress Shifts to Tax Reform

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CapitoltoCapitol

NATIONAL CONFERENCE of STATE LEGISLATURES



Oct. 2, 2017

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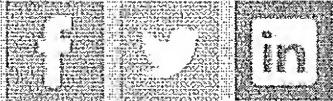
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- **1967:** Thurgood Marshall was sworn in as the first African-American justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Senate Releases Bipartisan Autonomous Vehicle Legislation That Pre-empts States

On Sep. 28, Senate Commerce Committee Chairman John Thune (R-S.D.), and Senators Gary Peters (D-Mich.), Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), and Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.) unveiled legislation regarding autonomous vehicles—the American Vision for Safer Transportation Through Advancement of Revolutionary Technologies (AV START)

Act. The AV START Act is similar to the House passed SELF DRIVE but it also contains several significant differences as well as areas of concerns for states, notably in the areas of pre-emption and safety evaluation reports. The Commerce Committee will consider the legislation at a markup schedule for Oct. 4.

Pre-emption

The Senate committee bill currently includes a pre-emption section identical to that included in the bill passed by the House. Specifically, the language would pre-empt states from regulating the performance of automated driving systems (ADS) as well as any "unreasonable restrictions" concerning registration, licensing, driving education and training, insurance, law enforcement, crash investigations, safety and emissions inspections, congestion management of vehicles on the street within a state or political subdivision of a state, or traffic on the design, construction, or performance of highly automated vehicles or ADS. **NCSL Urges State Legislators to Contact their Congressional Delegations to Voice their Opposition to the Pre-Emption.**

Additionally, the bill would prohibit a state from issuing licenses for a dedicated highly automated vehicle (DHAV), which the bill defines as a level 4 or 5 automated vehicle, in a way that discriminates against those with disabilities.

A full NCSL analysis of the AV START legislation can be read [here](#).

NCSL Contacts: Ben Husch; Kristen Hildreth

A Deeper Dive on Transportation, Energy, Environment and Agriculture Policy

For those looking for a deep dive on federal Transportation, Energy, Environment and Agriculture topics, please check out the September editions of our Natural Resources and Infrastructure Committee's three monthly newsletters:

- Energy & Agriculture Update - latest federal developments influencing agriculture and energy policy
- Environment Update - latest federal developments on environment policy
- Transportation Update - latest federal developments on transportation policy

NCSL Contacts: Ben Husch; Kristen Hildreth

DYK? Russia did not consider beer, or any beverage that contained less than 10 percent alcohol, to be alcoholic until 2011. They previously classified it as a soft drink. The new restrictions were signed off by then

President Dmitry Medvedev as part of an attempt to counter alcohol abuse, which he earlier called a "national calamity."

Supreme Court Will Hear Far-Reaching Union Case

The Supreme Court of the United States agreed on Thursday to hear *Janus v. AFSCME*, a case challenging the legality of union fees that could have serious ramifications for public sector unions. The case revolves around Illinois state employee Mark Janus, who contends the requirement that he pay union fees to the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) violates his free speech rights. The justices considered this issue once before, when the Court took up *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association* last year. That case was brought by a California teacher, Rebecca Friedrichs, and resulted in a 4-4 deadlock following the death of Justice Antonin Scalia. Should the justices vote the same way, Neil Gorsuch will be in a position to offer the final tie-breaking vote.

NCSL Contacts: Joan Wodiska, Lucia Bragg

Trump Signs Hurricane Relief Legislation for Schools, Issues Hurricane Relief Guidance

The president signed S. 1866 into law on Friday after the bill passed through Congress last week. The bill offers various forms of support for schools and colleges impacted by the recent hurricanes. Specifically, the law:

- Allows the U.S. Department of Education to waive a requirement that higher education institutions contribute matching funds as part of the Federal Work Study and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant programs.
- Redistributions the unused funds in those programs to colleges affected by the hurricanes.
- Provides access for private schools to funds available under the Project School Emergency Response to Violence program.

The law comes on the heels of new non-regulatory hurricane relief guidance, issued by the department on Sept. 22. The guidance identifies areas of federal law that are subject to flexibility and waivers for grantees and program participants impacted by natural disasters. The guidance focuses on support and flexibility options available to schools, state educational agencies, state lead agencies, local educational agencies, local early intervention service programs and providers, State Vocational Rehabilitation agencies, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)-funded schools, Tribes, and postsecondary institutions with a

focus on the 2017 hurricanes. The department will hold a webinar discussing the details of the guidance on Thursday, Oct. 5 at 2 p.m. ET. Interested participants may register [here](#).

NCSL Contacts: Joan Wodiska, Lucia Bragg

HHS Secretary Pays Price for Travel

On Friday, Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price resigned for his use of private charter and military jets to travel around the country at taxpayer expense. Don Wright, a longtime U. S. Health and Human Services (HHS) career employee, doctor and public health expert was named acting HHS secretary Friday following Price's resignation. Soon after Price stepped down, Washington began speculating about possible candidates for his replacement, including:

- Scott Gottlieb, the commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration
- Seema Verma, the administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- David Shulkin, the secretary of veterans affairs
- Former Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal
- Florida Governor Rick Scott

NCSL Contact: Haley Nicholson

Also of Note...

Federal Funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which covers 9 million children, expired on Sept. 30. If Congress does not act, the Kaiser Family Foundation expects 10 states to run out of money for the program by the end of the year, and 21 states will be out of money by March 2018.

NCSL Contact: Haley Nicholson

The National Flood Insurance Program, a federal program that aims to provide affordable flood insurance to property owners, has depleted its borrowing authority after a series of devastating hurricanes over the past several weeks. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which runs the program, notified Congress on Sept. 20 that it borrowed \$5.8 billion from the Treasury to fund losses this year, including those incurred by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, and "anticipated programmatic activities." The balance of FEMA's remaining borrowing authority is now zero, according to the agency.

NCSL Contact: Ethan Wilson

Read the Sept. 25, 2017, Capitol-to-Capitol.

If you have comments or suggestions, please contact [Max Behlke](#).

[Read More](#)

Capitol to Capitol is a publication of the National Conference of State Legislatures. NCSL is recognized as a formidable lobbying force in Washington, D.C. NCSL works to protect states from unfunded federal mandates and unwarranted federal pre-emption of state authority, and seeks to provide state legislatures the flexibility they need to innovate and be responsive to the unique needs of their residents. NCSL's advocacy is guided by the [policy directives and resolutions](#) adopted during NCSL's Legislative Summit.

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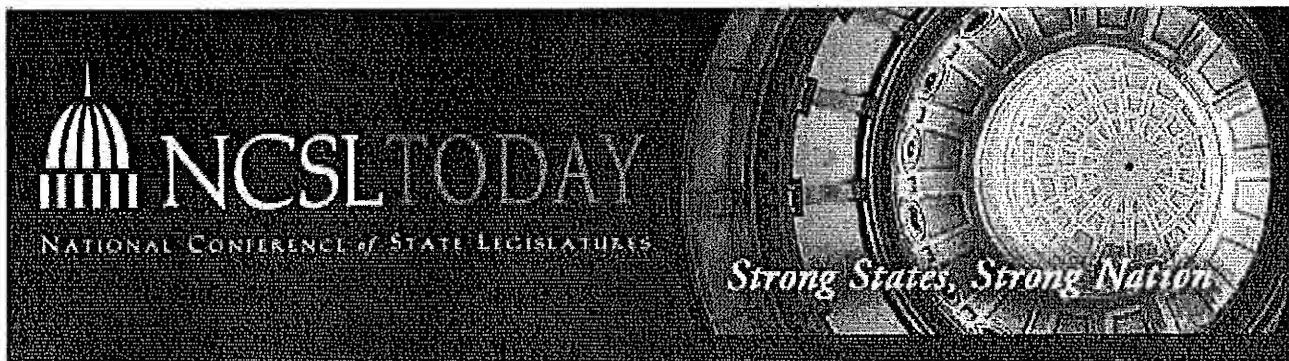
Washington: 202-624-5400

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7700 East First Place, Denver, CO 80230

From: NCSL TODAY
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 10:46 AM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: Russian hacking fuels return to paper ballots

NCSL Today | Manage your subscription



TOP NEWS Oct. 3, 2017

Russian hacking fuels return to paper ballots

Stateline

= A

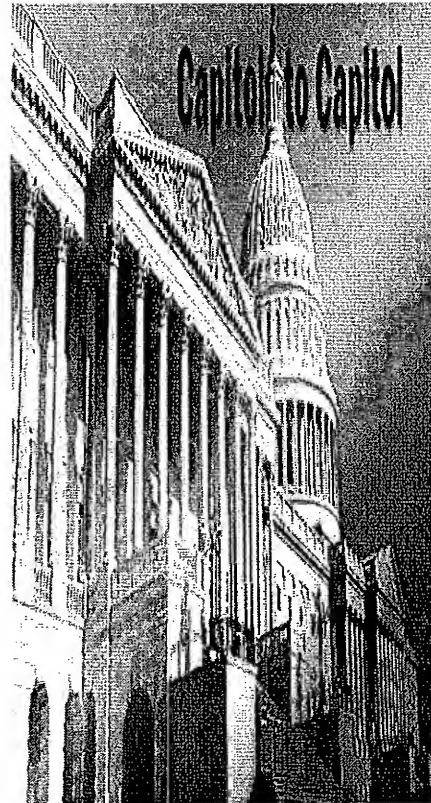
After Russian hackers targeted state voting systems last year, some officials are renewing their focus on switching to paper ballots, which they say are more secure and leave an audit trail. **NCSL consultant Katy Owens Hubler quoted.**

Mass shooting rekindles gun debate

The Hill

The national debate over gun violence was rekindled Monday after a gunman in Las Vegas opened fire on an outdoor concert crowd, killing at least 59 and wounding or injuring more than 500 others.

= A



Government jobs sprouting as legal pot looms in California

Associated Press

The state is on a hiring binge to fill what eventually will be hundreds of new government positions by 2019 intended to bring order to the legal pot economy, from keeping watch on what's seeping into streams near cannabis grows to running background checks on storefront sellers who want government licenses.

Arkansas spending for Medicaid rises

Arkansas Online

Driven by enrollment that surged past expectations, spending on Arkansas' expanded Medicaid program grew by almost 24 percent during the fiscal year that ended June 30, surpassing what state officials initially projected by about \$200 million.

Stagnant farm economy slows growth in Iowa, Nebraska

The Des Moines Register

A stagnant farm economy that has slowed Nebraska and Iowa's income growth to the lowest levels in the nation is also contributing to state budget problems that could linger through next year, officials said.

How hurricane responders track people whose lives depend on power

Stateline

For people who rely on electricity-dependent machines to maintain their health, power outages are more than a

Capitol to Capitol: Congress shifts to tax reform

On Sept. 27, President Donald Trump and the "Big Six"—which includes Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.), Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), House Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady (R-Texas), Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and National Economic Council Director Gary Cohn—released their "unified framework" for overhauling the U.S. tax code.



Allowing purchases of out-of-state health insurance

Register now for the NCSL Capitol Forum Dec. 10-13 in Coronado, Calif.

Financing clean energy projects through property assessments



frustration. State and local emergency managers are using data to keep them safe.

Supreme Court to hear public sector union dues case (again)

In 2016 the U.S. Supreme Court was expected to overrule a nearly 40-year old precedent requiring public sector employees who don't join the union to pay their "fair share" of collective bargaining costs.

= A



7700 East First Place, Denver, CO 80230

From: Myers, Marisa
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 5:11 PM
To: Gruber, Joe
Subject: NFIB
Attachments: 132nd-March-2017.pdf

Hi Joe,

Attached is NFIB's 1st quarter legislative update. It gives a good summary of the bills they are tracking and their position. Of the issues I cover, I would say Rep. Manning should be prepared to speak on:

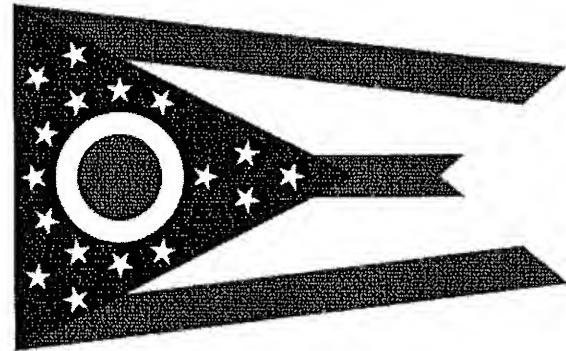
Prevailing Wage (HB 163)
Right to Work (HB 53, HB 113)
Employment Law Reform (HB 2)
Unemployment Compensation Reform (Steven actually covers this one, but I've worked on it a bit too and it's a big issue)

Let me know if you need additional information on those items or others.

Best,

Marisa Myers

Majority Caucus Policy Advisor | Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger
Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215
p. 614.728.5523 | e. Marisa.Myers@ohiohouse.gov



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

132nd OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MARCH 2017

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BUDGET AND TAXES

STATE OPERATING BUDGET – House Bill 49 – Sponsored by Representative Ryan Smith (R – Galipolis)

Makes appropriations for the operations of the state.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: NFIB/Ohio focused primarily on the tax reform components of the operating budget. The overall package results in a net tax reduction of \$39 million over the biennium. There is a 17% across the board income tax reduction, and a collapsing of income brackets from 9 to 5. The bill increases the sales tax from 5.75% to 6.25% and expands the base to a select group of services. The bill also increases the severance tax, cigarette and OTP taxes, and tax on beer & wine. The bill also subjects the CAT to interest on loans made by entities not subjected to the FIT and to qualified distribution centers of at least 10% of gross receipts. NFIB/Ohio does not support tax shifting. While the simplification on bracket collapsing is good policy, picking winners and losers on the sales tax and other taxes side is not. NFIB/Ohio supports the concept of centralized collection of municipal net profits tax to help ease the burden of filing. The budget appropriates nearly \$67 billion over the biennium (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019).

Status: Introduced February 8, 2017. Pending before Ohio House Finance Committee.

House Bill 49

SALES TAX HOLIDAY – Senate Bill 9 and House Bill 89 – Sponsored by Senator Kevin Bacon (R – Minerva Park) and Representatives John Patterson (D – Jefferson) and Brigid Kelly (D – Cincinnati)

To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support  KEY VOTE

Analysis: The bill follows the trend of previous enacted bills and would institute a three-day sales tax holiday for 2017. NFIB/Ohio is supportive of making this policy permanent in lieu of revisiting every year.

Status: Introduced January 31, 2017, and February 22, 2017, in respective chambers. SB 9 passed the Ohio Senate on February 22, 2017, on a vote of 32-1. Pending vote of full Ohio House. HB 89 pending before the Ohio House Ways & Means committee in the Ohio House.

Senate Bill 9

House Bill 89

CAUV – Senate Bill 36 – Sponsored by Senator Cliff Hite (R – Findlay)

To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill would revise the current CAUV formula attempting to more adequately reflect fluctuations in commodity prices and subsequent adjustments in land valuation. Farmers have seen a substantial spike in land value upwards of 300% increases. This bill seeks to bring about tax relief to land designated with CAUV status. NFIB/Ohio will be closely monitoring this bill and the impact to other property owners. The fiscal note indicates a loss of \$17-\$18 million to local governments and schools which may lead to additional levies being sought.

Status: Introduced February 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Ways & Means Committee.

Senate Bill 36

STATE GOVERNMENT

MICROBUSINESS –House Bill 5 – Sponsored by Representatives Dorothy Pelanda (R – Marysville) and Theresa Gavarone (R – Bowling Green)

To enact section 166.50 of the Revised Code to create a statutory definition of "microbusiness."

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill simply defines a microbusiness as one that is for-profit, independently held and employs 20 or fewer.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Passed the Ohio House on March 1, 2017, on a vote of 96-0. Pending before the Ohio Senate Transportation, Commerce & Workforce Committee.

[House Bill 5](#)

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE DATABASE – House Bill 40 – Sponsored by Representatives Jonathan Dever (R – Madeira) and Dave Greenspan (R – Westlake)

To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill essentially codifies the Treasurer of State's existing government expenditure database known as Ohio's Online Checkbook. This voluntary program shows all expenditures for participating units of local government. NFIB/Ohio supports transparency and accountability for public expenditures of taxpayer dollars. Short of codification, and subsequent Treasurer of State could elect to not continue this program.

Status: Introduced February 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee.

[House Bill 40](#)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RIGHT TO WORK – House Bill 53 – Sponsored by Representative John Becker (R – Union Township)

To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill prohibits an individual from having to join an organization as condition of employment. It also prohibits any fair share payments to an organization as condition of employment. Nothing in the bill abolishes collective bargaining rights or the rights of an individual to contribute to an organization.

Status: Introduced February 13, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Finance Committee.

House Bill 53

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE – House Bill 86 – Sponsored by Representatives Kent Smith (D – Euclid) and Hearcel Craig (D – Columbus)

To increase the state minimum wage to ten dollars and ten cents per hour beginning January 1, 2019.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill would take Ohio's minimum wage from the current \$8.15 per hour to \$10.10 per hour and index to inflation in subsequent years. NFIB/Ohio opposes any attempt and setting a minimum wage as the market should dictate wages. Small employers are least able to absorb this government mandate and will have to make tough decisions on benefit packages, schedules and employment.

Status: Introduced February 22, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio House.

House Bill 86

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS – Senate Bill 38 – Sponsored by Senator Kenny Yuko (D – Richmond Heights)

To raise the minimum wage; to eliminate the prohibition against political subdivisions establishing a different minimum wage; to raise the salary threshold above which certain employees are exempt from the overtime law; and to create a uniform standard to determine whether an individual performing services for an employer is an employee of that employer.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill would raise the minimum wage to \$10.15 an hour and index to inflation and repeal the recently enacted and NFIB/Ohio Key Vote on restricting local governments from establishing a different minimum wage than the state. The bill also increases the salary threshold when certain employees are exempt from overtime. NFIB sued the federal government to stop the doubling of the threshold. This bill takes it further to \$50,000 in 2018 and \$69,000 in 2019. The bill also scraps the current test for who is or is not an employee and creates

draconian penalties for employers that recklessly misclassify individuals. The bill also adds liability to general contractors for the hiring practices of their subcontractors. NFIB has long challenged previous iterations of this bill. While we do not condone misclassification, the methods employed in this bill will likely lead to harassment of employers by competitors as any interested party may file a complaint with the Dept. of Commerce.

Status: Introduced February 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee.

[Senate Bill 38](#)

BAN THE BOX – Senate Bill 49 – Sponsored by Senator Sandra Williams (D – Cleveland)

To prohibit private employers from including on an employment application any question concerning whether an applicant has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a felony.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill prohibits an employer from asking about an applicant's pleading guilty to or being convicted of a felony on a job application. The bill does not preclude an employer from doing a background check. The bill appears to include no penalties for non-compliance. NFIB/Ohio members believe they should have the right to ask the question upfront and make their own decision about how to handle any previous felonies.

Status: Introduced February 14, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee.

[Senate Bill 49](#)

PERMISSIVE PREVAILING WAGE - Senate Bill 72 & House Bill 163 – Sponsored by Senator Matt Huffman (R – Lima) and Representatives Kristina Roegner (R – Hudson) & Craig Riedel (R – Defiance)

To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill would allow local governments, special districts (like port authorities) and higher education institutions to decide on a project by project basis whether to apply prevailing wage to any public improvement project. There are NFIB/Ohio members that are not able to meet the requirements for prevailing wage and thus are excluded from being bidders on prevailing wage projects. This bill also gives local governments and other public entities the ability to better manage their taxpayer dollars on projects and expand the number of competitive bids.

Status: Introduced February 27, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Finance Committee.

Senate Bill 72

House Bill 163

HEALTHCARE

STEP THERAPY PROTOCOL – Senate Bill 56 & House Bill 72 – Sponsored by
Senators Peggy Lehner (R – Kettering) and Charleta Tavares (D – Columbus) and
Representative Terry Johnson (R – McDermott) and Nickie Antonio (D –
Lakewood)

To adopt requirements related to step therapy protocols implemented by health plan issuers and the Department of Medicaid.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill stipulates that step therapy protocols can be bypassed in certain circumstances. Step therapy is utilized by insurance companies to try and treat a patient with less costly drugs/therapy before moving on to more expensive treatments. The proponents of this legislation indicate insurance companies use fail first methods too much even when it is known that the treatment will fail. NFIB/Ohio is monitoring to see what impacts this might have on our members' health insurance premiums.

Status: Introduced February 14, 2017 and February 21, 2017, in respective chambers. Pending before the Ohio Senate Health, Human Service & Medicaid Committee. Pending before Ohio House Health Committee.

[Senate Bill 56](#)

[House Bill 72](#)

UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE – Senate Bill 91 – Sponsored by Senators Michael Skindell (D – Lakewood) and Charleta Tavares (D – Columbus)

To establish and operate the Ohio Health Care Plan to provide universal health care coverage to all Ohio residents.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill eliminates the competitive market for health insurance in favor of a universal, government run program. The bill is funded through employer payroll assessments of no more than 3.85% in first year, assessments on gross receipts of employers not to exceed 3% in the first year, assessments on income tax of 6.2% and for those earning over \$200,000 an additional 5%.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Insurance & Financial Institutions Committee.

[Senate Bill 91](#)

HEARING AID MANDATE – Senate Bill 93 – Sponsored by Senator Edna Brown (D – Toledo)

To require health insurers to offer coverage for hearing aids.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill requires that all health insurance policies that provide basic coverage be required to include a benefit of no less than \$1,500 per year over three years. The bill also prohibits any deductible or co-pay charges. Like all mandates they are only applicable to the fully-insured market, arguably the most volatile, leaving significant coverage gaps.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee.

[Senate Bill 93](#)

MAMMOGRAPHY MANDATE EXPANSION – Senate Bill 121 – Sponsored by Senator John Eklund (R – Munson Township)

To include tomosynthesis as part of required screening mammography benefits under health insurance policies.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill adds an additional requirement to the mammography mandate currently in Ohio Revised Code that would cover 3D imaging. NFIB/Ohio is working with the health insurance industry to understand if this service is already covered and the efficacy of this procedure in early detection of cancer. This bill is an expansion of an already existing mandate.

Status: Introduced March 30, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio Senate.

[Senate Bill 121](#)

LABOR

EMPLOYMENT LAW REFORM – House Bill 2 – Sponsored by Representative Seitz (R – Cincinnati)

To amend sections 2315.18, 4112.01, 4112.02, 4112.04, 4112.05, 4112.051, 4112.08, and 4112.99; to amend, for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as indicated in parentheses, sections 4112.051 (4112.055) and 4112.052 (4112.056); to enact new sections 4112.051, 4112.052 and sections 4112.053 and 4112.054; and to repeal section 4112.14 of the Revised Code to modify Ohio civil rights laws related to employment.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill would update Ohio's employment laws to sync with federal employment laws, particularly as it relates to statutes of limitation for filing of claims. The bill eliminates filing in multiple venues at the same time, eliminates supervisor liability for enforcement of a company policy, and puts a sliding scale cap on damages based upon employer size. These reforms will also streamline age discrimination lawsuits which have four different tracks of pursuit currently.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee.

[House Bill 2](#)

RIGHT TO WORK – House Bill 113 – Sponsored by Representative Tom Brinkman (R – Cincinnati)

To prohibit any requirement that employees of private employers join or pay dues to any employee organization and to establish civil and criminal penalties against employers who violate that prohibition.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill would prohibit the joining of any employee organization as a condition of employment. This policy is known as right to work. The bill also establishes both civil and criminal penalties including recovery for actual damages for individuals and fines up \$1,000 and up to 90 days in jail. NFIB/Ohio's last ballot on right to work received overwhelming support in favor.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee.

[House Bill 113](#)

WAGE DISCRIMINATION – House Bill 138 – Sponsored by Representatives Kent Smith (D – Euclid) and Janine Boyd (D – Cleveland)

To require the Ohio Civil Rights Commission to establish a system for individuals to make anonymous complaints regarding employers discriminating in the payment of wages.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill would create a process whereby an individual who feels he/she has been discriminated against with respect to wages/pay may file an anonymous complaint via phone or electronic means. Current procedure requires in person, via mail with a notarized complaint form or electronically which subsequently requires a notarized form to be resubmitted. Wage discrimination is currently illegal. NFIB/Ohio does not condone discrimination in any form or fashion. We will monitor this bill to ensure that employers are protected during investigations and not penalized simply based upon the filing of a complaint.

Status: Introduced March 21, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio House.

[House Bill 138](#)

PREDICTIVE SCHEDULING – Senate Bill 101 – Sponsored by Senator Michael Skindell (D – Lakewood)

To regulate certain employment practices of formula retail establishment employers, food services establishment employers, and contractors and to require the purchaser of a formula retail establishment or food services establishment to retain certain employees of the establishment on transfer of ownership.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill requires two weeks advanced notice for employee scheduling. Deviation or adjustment will result in payment of some of the hours to the employee. Bill also requires retention of certain employees when a specific type of business is sold or ownership is transferred. NFIB/Ohio supported legislation in the 131st GA that keeps scheduling and other fringe benefits between employer and employee. Any interference in this process, including retention of employees upon transfer of ownership, is unnecessary government involvement in an employer/employee contract/relationship.

Status: Introduced March 15, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio Senate.

[Senate Bill 101](#)

WORKERS' COMP & UNEMPLOYMENT COMP

WORKERS' COMP BUDGET – House Bill 27 – Sponsored by Representative Tom Brinkman (R – Cincinnati)

To make changes to the Workers' Compensation Law, to make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill is the biennial budget for the BWC, separate from the state operating budget. There is a provision contained within that would dismiss a claim for permanent partial disability should the applicant not submit to a medical examination. This provision is a part of one of NFIB/Ohio's key workers' compensation reforms. The \$566.5 million budget is a 2.5% increase from the previous biennium. Ongoing monitoring will continue through the legislative process. The sub bill includes a provision that reduces the statute of limitations for filing a claim from 2 years to 1 year. This provision has been a decades long priority of NFIB/Ohio.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Insurance Committee.

House Bill 27

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION BUDGET – House Bill 28 – Sponsored by Representative Tom Brinkman (R- Cincinnati)

To make appropriations for the Industrial Commission for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of Commission programs.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: This is simply an appropriations bill. There is currently no policy changes included. NFIB/Ohio will continue to monitor for any policy additions. The bill appropriates \$103.6 million over the biennium representing a one percent increase over the previous biennium.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Finance Committee.

House Bill 28

MILITARY SPOUSE WORKERS' COMP – House Bill 158 & Senate Bill 116 – Sponsored by Representatives Rick Perales (R – Beavercreek) & Hearcel Craig

(D – Columbus) and Senators Frank LaRose (R – Hudson) & Sandra Williams (D- Cleveland)

To permit persons who quit work to accompany the person's spouse on a military transfer to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill permits the spouse of an active duty military member to qualify for unemployment benefits should the spouse be required to move as a result of a military transfer. NFIB/Ohio always is always focused on expansion of benefits particularly when an expansion could cause the full FUTA offset credit to be lost skyrocketing employers' rates from \$42 per employee to \$420 per employee. However, as Ohio is no longer in a state of borrowing this penalty would not be triggered. This provision is estimated to cost less than \$100,000 annually in benefit payouts.

Status: Introduced March 23, 2017, in the Ohio House and March 22, 2017, in the Ohio Senate. Pending referral to committee in both chambers.

House Bill 158

Senate Bill 116

PTSD WORKERS' COMP – Senate Bill 118 & House Bill 161– Sponsored by
Senators Frank LaRose (R – Hudson) and Edna Brown (D – Toledo) and
Representative Tom Patton (R – Strongsville)

To make peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury eligible for compensation and benefits under Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law for up to one year and to prohibit such a person from receiving a disability benefit from a state retirement system for post-traumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury during the time period the person receives compensation and benefits under the Workers' Compensation Law for the disorder.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill would allow PTSD or mental allowances as the basis for a workers' compensation claim for first responders. This would undo decades of precedence that requires an underlying physical injury to have a mental allowance. This bill does limit benefits to one year and prohibit an individual from receiving a disability benefit without a physical injury. When BWC testified against a similar bill they estimated public employer premiums would double. NFIB/Ohio is very concerned about a potential challenge on equal protection grounds opening up all employers to these claims.

Status: Introduced March 23, 2017, in the Ohio Senate and March 28, 2017, in the Ohio Senate. Pending referral to committee in both chambers.

Senate Bill 118

House Bill 161

TORT REFORM/CIVIL JUSTICE

MED MAL REFORM – House Bill 7 – Sponsored by Representative Bob Cupp (R – Lima)

To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim; to provide that medical bills itemizing charges are inadmissible as evidence and an amount accepted as full payment for medical services is admissible as evidence of the reasonableness of the charges; to specify the manner of sending a notice of intent to file a medical claim and provide a procedure for the discovery of other potential claims within a specified period after the filing of a medical claim; to provide that any loss of a chance of recovery or survival by itself is not an injury, death, or loss for which damages may be recovered; to provide civil immunity to certain medical providers regarding the discharge of a patient with a mental condition that threatens the safety of the patient or others; to require that governmental agencies that receive peer review committee records maintain their confidentiality; and to clarify the definition of "medical claim."

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The many provisions of the bill are articulated in the title. Analysis is ongoing as the bill sees activity.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Civil Justice Committee.

[House Bill 7](#)

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To amend section 2315.18 of the Revised Code to remove the cap on the amount of compensatory damages that represents damages for noneconomic loss that is recoverable in a tort action when the tort action is brought by a victim of rape, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, or negligent assault.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill is in response to a recent Ohio Supreme Court ruling upholding Ohio's noneconomic damage caps for a victim of sexual assault. This bill would remove the caps in place for instances of rape, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, or negligent assault. NFIB/Ohio will be closely monitoring this bill to protect employer liability for non-work related actions done by employees.

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[House Bill 20](#)

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To enact the Ohio Fairness Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, to add mediation to the list of informal methods by which the Ohio Civil Rights Commission may use to induce compliance with Ohio's Civil Rights Law before instituting a formal hearing, and to uphold existing religious exemptions under Ohio's Civil Rights Law.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill would add sexual orientation and gender identity or expression to the list of protected classes for purposes of discrimination. NFIB/Ohio does not condone discrimination but carefully monitors legislation that adds avenues in which employers may be sued. NFIB/Ohio supports broader reforms to Ohio's employment discrimination included in House Bill 2.

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[House Bill 160](#)

TRESPASSING NOTIFICATION – Senate Bill 76 – Sponsored by Senator Bill Coley (R – Liberty Township)

To amend the law governing criminal trespass to specify that placing purple paint marks on trees or posts constitutes posting notice in a manner reasonably calculated to come to the attention of potential intruders.

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Analysis: The bill allows private property owners to paint purple marks on trees or posts to notify potential trespassers that they are on or near private property. This bill aims to protect private property owners from potential litigation by giving another means of notification of property boundaries.

Status: Introduced February 27, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee.

[Senate Bill 76](#)

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

ENERGY EFFICIENCY REFORM -- House Bill 114 – Sponsored by Representative Louis Blessing (R – Cincinnati)

To revise the provisions governing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill is similar to the bill vetoed last GA by Governor Kasich. The bill extends the current renewable energy and energy efficient requirements through 2027 and eliminates after. Additionally, freezes mandates for two years making them goals instead. The bill reduces energy efficiency benchmarks and adds items to what counts toward benchmarks. The bill adds mercantile customers (700k+ kWh annually) to the opt-out provisions. Further the bill permits residential customers to opt-out of any rider or other charges related to renewal energy and expressly states that all costs for providing renewable energy resources are bypassable by any consumer shopping for an electrical supplier.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Public Utilities Committee.

[House Bill 114](#)

From: Myers, Marisa
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 5:11 PM
To: Gruber, Joe
Subject: NFIB
Attachments: 132nd-March-2017.pdf

Hi Joe,

Attached is NFIB's 1st quarter legislative update. It gives a good summary of the bills they are tracking and their position. Of the issues I cover, I would say Rep. Manning should be prepared to speak on:

Prevailing Wage (HB 163)
Right to Work (HB 53, HB 113)
Employment Law Reform (HB 2)
Unemployment Compensation Reform (Steven actually covers this one, but I've worked on it a bit too and it's a big issue)

Let me know if you need additional information on those items or others.

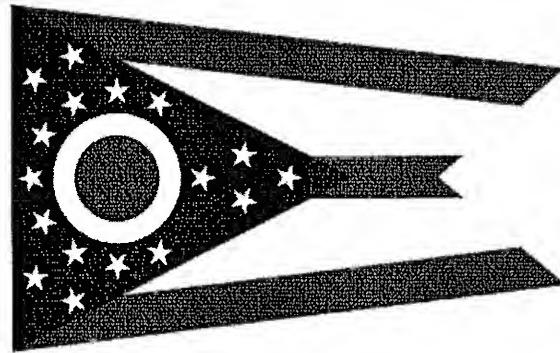
Best,

Marisa Myers

Majority Caucus Policy Advisor | Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger
Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215
p. 614.728.5523 | e. Marisa.Myers@ohiohouse.gov

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

132nd OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MARCH 2017

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BUDGET AND TAXES

STATE OPERATING BUDGET – House Bill 49 – Sponsored by Representative Ryan Smith (R – Galipolis)

Makes appropriations for the operations of the state.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: NFIB/Ohio focused primarily on the tax reform components of the operating budget. The overall package results in a net tax reduction of \$39 million over the biennium. There is a 17% across the board income tax reduction, and a collapsing of income brackets from 9 to 5. The bill increases the sales tax from 5.75% to 6.25% and expands the base to a select group of services. The bill also increases the severance tax, cigarette and OTP taxes, and tax on beer & wine. The bill also subjects the CAT to interest on loans made by entities not subjected to the FIT and to qualified distribution centers of at least 10% of gross receipts. NFIB/Ohio does not support tax shifting. While the simplification on bracket collapsing is good policy, picking winners and losers on the sales tax and other taxes side is not. NFIB/Ohio supports the concept of centralized collection of municipal net profits tax to help ease the burden of filing. The budget appropriates nearly \$67 billion over the biennium (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019).

Status: Introduced February 8, 2017. Pending before Ohio House Finance Committee.

[House Bill 49](#)

SALES TAX HOLIDAY – Senate Bill 9 and House Bill 89 – Sponsored by Senator Kevin Bacon (R – Minerva Park) and Representatives John Patterson (D – Jefferson) and Brigid Kelly (D – Cincinnati)

To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support 

Analysis: The bill follows the trend of previous enacted bills and would institute a three-day sales tax holiday for 2017. NFIB/Ohio is supportive of making this policy permanent in lieu of revisiting every year.

Status: Introduced January 31, 2017, and February 22, 2017, in respective chambers. SB 9 passed the Ohio Senate on February 22, 2017, on a vote of 32-1. Pending vote of full Ohio House. HB 89 pending before the Ohio House Ways & Means committee in the Ohio House.

[Senate Bill 9](#)

[House Bill 89](#)

CAUV – Senate Bill 36 – Sponsored by Senator Cliff Hite (R – Findlay)

To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill would revise the current CAUV formula attempting to more adequately reflect fluctuations in commodity prices and subsequent adjustments in land valuation. Farmers have seen a substantial spike in land value upwards of 300% increases. This bill seeks to bring about tax relief to land designated with CAUV status. NFIB/Ohio will be closely monitoring this bill and the impact to other property owners. The fiscal note indicates a loss of \$17-\$18 million to local governments and schools which may lead to additional levies being sought.

Status: Introduced February 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Ways & Means Committee.

Senate Bill 36

STATE GOVERNMENT

MICROBUSINESS –House Bill 5 – Sponsored by Representatives Dorothy Pelanda (R – Marysville) and Theresa Gavarone (R – Bowling Green)

To enact section 166.50 of the Revised Code to create a statutory definition of "microbusiness."

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill simply defines a microbusiness as one that is for-profit, independently held and employs 20 or fewer.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Passed the Ohio House on March 1, 2017, on a vote of 96-0. Pending before the Ohio Senate Transportation, Commerce & Workforce Committee.

[House Bill 5](#)

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE DATABASE – House Bill 40 – Sponsored by Representatives Jonathan Dever (R – Madeira) and Dave Greenspan (R – Westlake)

To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill essentially codifies the Treasurer of State's existing government expenditure database known as Ohio's Online Checkbook. This voluntary program shows all expenditures for participating units of local government. NFIB/Ohio supports transparency and accountability for public expenditures of taxpayer dollars. Short of codification, and subsequent Treasurer of State could elect to not continue this program.

Status: Introduced February 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee.

[House Bill 40](#)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RIGHT TO WORK – House Bill 53 – Sponsored by Representative John Becker (R – Union Township)

To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill prohibits an individual from having to join an organization as condition of employment. It also prohibits any fair share payments to an organization as condition of employment. Nothing in the bill abolishes collective bargaining rights or the rights of an individual to contribute to an organization.

Status: Introduced February 13, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Finance Committee.

House Bill 53

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE – House Bill 86 – Sponsored by Representatives Kent Smith (D – Euclid) and Hearcel Craig (D – Columbus)

To increase the state minimum wage to ten dollars and ten cents per hour beginning January 1, 2019.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill would take Ohio's minimum wage from the current \$8.15 per hour to \$10.10 per hour and index to inflation in subsequent years. NFIB/Ohio opposes any attempt and setting a minimum wage as the market should dictate wages. Small employers are least able to absorb this government mandate and will have to make tough decisions on benefit packages, schedules and employment.

Status: Introduced February 22, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio House.

House Bill 86

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS – Senate Bill 38 – Sponsored by Senator Kenny Yuko (D – Richmond Heights)

To raise the minimum wage; to eliminate the prohibition against political subdivisions establishing a different minimum wage; to raise the salary threshold above which certain employees are exempt from the overtime law; and to create a uniform standard to determine whether an individual performing services for an employer is an employee of that employer.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill would raise the minimum wage to \$10.15 an hour and index to inflation and repeal the recently enacted and NFIB/Ohio Key Vote on restricting local governments from establishing a different minimum wage than the state. The bill also increases the salary threshold when certain employees are exempt from overtime. NFIB sued the federal government to stop the doubling of the threshold. This bill takes it further to \$50,000 in 2018 and \$69,000 in 2019. The bill also scraps the current test for who is or is not an employee and creates

draconian penalties for employers that recklessly misclassify individuals. The bill also adds liability to general contractors for the hiring practices of their subcontractors. NFIB has long challenged previous iterations of this bill. While we do not condone misclassification, the methods employed in this bill will likely lead to harassment of employers by competitors as any interested party may file a complaint with the Dept. of Commerce.

Status: Introduced February 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee.

[Senate Bill 38](#)

BAN THE BOX – Senate Bill 49 – Sponsored by Senator Sandra Williams (D – Cleveland)

To prohibit private employers from including on an employment application any question concerning whether an applicant has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a felony.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill prohibits an employer from asking about an applicant's pleading guilty to or being convicted of a felony on a job application. The bill does not preclude an employer from doing a background check. The bill appears to include no penalties for non-compliance. NFIB/Ohio members believe they should have the right to ask the question upfront and make their own decision about how to handle any previous felonies.

Status: Introduced February 14, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee.

[Senate Bill 49](#)

PERMISSIVE PREVAILING WAGE - Senate Bill 72 & House Bill 163 – Sponsored by Senator Matt Huffman (R – Lima) and Representatives Kristina Roegner (R – Hudson) & Craig Riedel (R – Defiance)

To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill would allow local governments, special districts (like port authorities) and higher education institutions to decide on a project by project basis whether to apply prevailing wage to any public improvement project. There are NFIB/Ohio members that are not able to meet the requirements for prevailing wage and thus are excluded from being bidders on prevailing wage projects. This bill also gives local governments and other public entities the ability to better manage their taxpayer dollars on projects and expand the number of competitive bids.

Status: Introduced February 27, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Finance Committee.

[Senate Bill 72](#)

[House Bill 163](#)

HEALTHCARE

STEP THERAPY PROTOCOL – Senate Bill 56 & House Bill 72 – Sponsored by
Senators Peggy Lehner (R – Kettering) and Charleta Tavares (D – Columbus) and
Representative Terry Johnson (R – McDermott) and Nickie Antonio (D –
Lakewood)

To adopt requirements related to step therapy protocols implemented by health plan issuers and the Department of Medicaid.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill stipulates that step therapy protocols can be bypassed in certain circumstances. Step therapy is utilized by insurance companies to try and treat a patient with less costly drugs/therapy before moving on to more expensive treatments. The proponents of this legislation indicate insurance companies use fail first methods too much even when it is known that the treatment will fail. NFIB/Ohio is monitoring to see what impacts this might have on our members' health insurance premiums.

Status: Introduced February 14, 2017 and February 21, 2017, in respective chambers. Pending before the Ohio Senate Health, Human Service & Medicaid Committee. Pending before Ohio House Health Committee.

[Senate Bill 56](#)

[House Bill 72](#)

UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE – Senate Bill 91 – Sponsored by Senators Michael Skindell (D – Lakewood) and Charleta Tavares (D – Columbus)

To establish and operate the Ohio Health Care Plan to provide universal health care coverage to all Ohio residents.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill eliminates the competitive market for health insurance in favor of a universal, government run program. The bill is funded through employer payroll assessments of no more than 3.85% in first year, assessments on gross receipts of employers not to exceed 3% in the first year, assessments on income tax of 6.2% and for those earning over \$200,000 an additional 5%.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Insurance & Financial Institutions Committee.

[Senate Bill 91](#)

HEARING AID MANDATE – Senate Bill 93 – Sponsored by Senator Edna Brown (D – Toledo)

To require health insurers to offer coverage for hearing aids.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill requires that all health insurance policies that provide basic coverage be required to include a benefit of no less than \$1,500 per year over three years. The bill also prohibits any deductible or co-pay charges. Like all mandates they are only applicable to the fully-insured market, arguably the most volatile, leaving significant coverage gaps.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee.

[Senate Bill 93](#)

MAMMOGRAPHY MANDATE EXPANSION – Senate Bill 121 – Sponsored by Senator John Eklund (R – Munson Township)

To include tomosynthesis as part of required screening mammography benefits under health insurance policies.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill adds an additional requirement to the mammography mandate currently in Ohio Revised Code that would cover 3D imaging. NFIB/Ohio is working with the health insurance industry to understand if this service is already covered and the efficacy of this procedure in early detection of cancer. This bill is an expansion of an already existing mandate.

Status: Introduced March 30, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio Senate.

[Senate Bill 121](#)

LABOR

EMPLOYMENT LAW REFORM – House Bill 2 – Sponsored by Representative Seitz (R – Cincinnati)

To amend sections 2315.18, 4112.01, 4112.02, 4112.04, 4112.05, 4112.051, 4112.08, and 4112.99; to amend, for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as indicated in parentheses, sections 4112.051 (4112.055) and 4112.052 (4112.056); to enact new sections 4112.051, 4112.052 and sections 4112.053 and 4112.054; and to repeal section 4112.14 of the Revised Code to modify Ohio civil rights laws related to employment.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill would update Ohio's employment laws to sync with federal employment laws, particularly as it relates to statutes of limitation for filing of claims. The bill eliminates filing in multiple venues at the same time, eliminates supervisor liability for enforcement of a company policy, and puts a sliding scale cap on damages based upon employer size. These reforms will also streamline age discrimination lawsuits which have four different tracks of pursuit currently.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Bill 2

RIGHT TO WORK – House Bill 113 – Sponsored by Representative Tom Brinkman (R – Cincinnati)

To prohibit any requirement that employees of private employers join or pay dues to any employee organization and to establish civil and criminal penalties against employers who violate that prohibition.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill would prohibit the joining of any employee organization as a condition of employment. This policy is known as right to work. The bill also establishes both civil and criminal penalties including recovery for actual damages for individuals and fines up \$1,000 and up to 90 days in jail. NFIB/Ohio's last ballot on right to work received overwhelming support in favor.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Bill 113

WAGE DISCRIMINATION – House Bill 138 – Sponsored by Representatives Kent Smith (D – Euclid) and Janine Boyd (D – Cleveland)

To require the Ohio Civil Rights Commission to establish a system for individuals to make anonymous complaints regarding employers discriminating in the payment of wages.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill would create a process whereby an individual who feels he/she has been discriminated against with respect to wages/pay may file an anonymous complaint via phone or electronic means. Current procedure requires in person, via mail with a notarized complaint form or electronically which subsequently requires a notarized form to be resubmitted. Wage discrimination is currently illegal. NFIB/Ohio does not condone discrimination in any form or fashion. We will monitor this bill to ensure that employers are protected during investigations and not penalized simply based upon the filing of a complaint.

Status: Introduced March 21, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio House.

House Bill 138

PREDICTIVE SCHEDULING – Senate Bill 101 – Sponsored by Senator Michael Skindell (D – Lakewood)

To regulate certain employment practices of formula retail establishment employers, food services establishment employers, and contractors and to require the purchaser of a formula retail establishment or food services establishment to retain certain employees of the establishment on transfer of ownership.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill requires two weeks advanced notice for employee scheduling. Deviation or adjustment will result in payment of some of the hours to the employee. Bill also requires retention of certain employees when a specific type of business is sold or ownership is transferred. NFIB/Ohio supported legislation in the 131st GA that keeps scheduling and other fringe benefits between employer and employee. Any interference in this process, including retention of employees upon transfer of ownership, is unnecessary government involvement in an employer/employee contract/relationship.

Status: Introduced March 15, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio Senate.

Senate Bill 101

WORKERS' COMP & UNEMPLOYMENT COMP

WORKERS' COMP BUDGET – House Bill 27 – Sponsored by Representative Tom Brinkman (R – Cincinnati)

To make changes to the Workers' Compensation Law, to make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill is the biennial budget for the BWC, separate from the state operating budget. There is a provision contained within that would dismiss a claim for permanent partial disability should the applicant not submit to a medical examination. This provision is a part of one of NFIB/Ohio's key workers' compensation reforms. The \$566.5 million budget is a 2.5% increase from the previous biennium. Ongoing monitoring will continue through the legislative process. The sub bill includes a provision that reduces the statute of limitations for filing a claim from 2 years to 1 year. This provision has been a decades long priority of NFIB/Ohio.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Insurance Committee.

House Bill 27

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION BUDGET – House Bill 28 – Sponsored by Representative Tom Brinkman (R- Cincinnati)

To make appropriations for the Industrial Commission for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of Commission programs.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: This is simply an appropriations bill. There is currently no policy changes included. NFIB/Ohio will continue to monitor for any policy additions. The bill appropriates \$103.6 million over the biennium representing a one percent increase over the previous biennium.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Finance Committee.

House Bill 28

MILITARY SPOUSE WORKERS' COMP – House Bill 158 & Senate Bill 116 – Sponsored by Representatives Rick Perales (R – Beavercreek) & Hearcel Craig

(D – Columbus) and Senators Frank LaRose (R – Hudson) & Sandra Williams (D- Cleveland)

To permit persons who quit work to accompany the person's spouse on a military transfer to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill permits the spouse of an active duty military member to qualify for unemployment benefits should the spouse be required to move as a result of a military transfer. NFIB/Ohio always is always focused on expansion of benefits particularly when an expansion could cause the full FUTA offset credit to be lost skyrocketing employers' rates from \$42 per employee to \$420 per employee. However, as Ohio is no longer in a state of borrowing this penalty would not be triggered. This provision is estimated to cost less than \$100,000 annually in benefit payouts.

Status: Introduced March 23, 2017, in the Ohio House and March 22, 2017, in the Ohio Senate. Pending referral to committee in both chambers,

House Bill 158

Senate Bill 116

PTSD WORKERS' COMP – Senate Bill 118 & House Bill 161-- Sponsored by
Senators Frank LaRose (R – Hudson) and Edna Brown (D -- Toledo) and
Representative Tom Patton (R – Strongsville)

To make peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury eligible for compensation and benefits under Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law for up to one year and to prohibit such a person from receiving a disability benefit from a state retirement system for post-traumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury during the time period the person receives compensation and benefits under the Workers' Compensation Law for the disorder.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill would allow PTSD or mental allowances as the basis for a workers' compensation claim for first responders. This would undo decades of precedence that requires an underlying physical injury to have a mental allowance. This bill does limit benefits to one year and prohibit an individual from receiving a disability benefit without a physical injury. When BWC testified against a similar bill they estimated public employer premiums would double. NFIB/Ohio is very concerned about a potential challenge on equal protection grounds opening up all employers to these claims.

Status: Introduced March 23, 2017, in the Ohio Senate and March 28, 2017, in the Ohio Senate. Pending referral to committee in both chambers.

Senate Bill 118

House Bill 161

TORT REFORM/CIVIL JUSTICE

MED MAL REFORM – House Bill 7 – Sponsored by Representative Bob Cupp (R – Lima)

To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim; to provide that medical bills itemizing charges are inadmissible as evidence and an amount accepted as full payment for medical services is admissible as evidence of the reasonableness of the charges; to specify the manner of sending a notice of intent to file a medical claim and provide a procedure for the discovery of other potential claims within a specified period after the filing of a medical claim; to provide that any loss of a chance of recovery or survival by itself is not an injury, death, or loss for which damages may be recovered; to provide civil immunity to certain medical providers regarding the discharge of a patient with a mental condition that threatens the safety of the patient or others; to require that governmental agencies that receive peer review committee records maintain their confidentiality; and to clarify the definition of "medical claim."

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The many provisions of the bill are articulated in the title. Analysis is ongoing as the bill sees activity.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Civil Justice Committee.

House Bill 7

DAMAGE CAPS REMOVAL – House Bill 20 -- Sponsored by Representatives Anne Gonzales (R – Westerville) and Kristin Boggs (D – Columbus)

To amend section 2315.18 of the Revised Code to remove the cap on the amount of compensatory damages that represents damages for noneconomic loss that is recoverable in a tort action when the tort action is brought by a victim of rape, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, or negligent assault.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill is in response to a recent Ohio Supreme Court ruling upholding Ohio's noneconomic damage caps for a victim of sexual assault. This bill would remove the caps in place for instances of rape, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, or negligent assault. NFIB/Ohio will be closely monitoring this bill to protect employer liability for non-work related actions done by employees.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee.

House Bill 20

SEXUAL ORIENTATION DISCRIMINATION - House Bill 160 – Sponsored by Representative Nickie Antonio (D – Lakewood)

To enact the Ohio Fairness Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, to add mediation to the list of informal methods by which the Ohio Civil Rights Commission may use to induce compliance with Ohio's Civil Rights Law before instituting a formal hearing, and to uphold existing religious exemptions under Ohio's Civil Rights Law.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill would add sexual orientation and gender identity or expression to the list of protected classes for purposes of discrimination. NFIB/Ohio does not condone discrimination but carefully monitors legislation that adds avenues in which employers may be sued. NFIB/Ohio supports broader reforms to Ohio's employment discrimination included in House Bill 2.

Status: Introduced March 28, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio House.

House Bill 160

TRESPASSING NOTIFICATION – Senate Bill 76 – Sponsored by Senator Bill Coley (R – Liberty Township)

To amend the law governing criminal trespass to specify that placing purple paint marks on trees or posts constitutes posting notice in a manner reasonably calculated to come to the attention of potential intruders.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill allows private property owners to paint purple marks on trees or posts to notify potential trespassers that they are on or near private property. This bill aims to protect private property owners from potential litigation by giving another means of notification of property boundaries.

Status: Introduced February 27, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee.

Senate Bill 76

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

ENERGY EFFICIENCY REFORM – House Bill 114 – Sponsored by Representative Louis Blessing (R – Cincinnati)

To revise the provisions governing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill is similar to the bill vetoed last GA by Governor Kasich. The bill extends the current renewable energy and energy efficient requirements through 2027 and eliminates after. Additionally, freezes mandates for two years making them goals instead. The bill reduces energy efficiency benchmarks and adds items to what counts toward benchmarks. The bill adds mercantile customers (700k+ kWh annually) to the opt-out provisions. Further the bill permits residential customers to opt-out of any rider or other charges related to renewal energy and expressly states that all costs for providing renewable energy resources are bypassable by any consumer shopping for an electrical supplier.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Public Utilities Committee.

[House Bill 114](#)

From: Myers, Marisa
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 5:11 PM
To: Gruber, Joe
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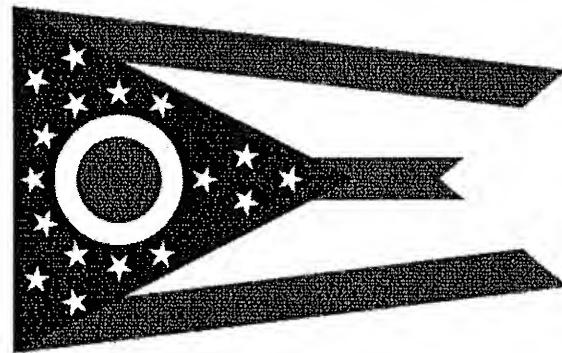
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Employment Law Reform (HB 2)
Unemployment Compensation Reform (Steven actually covers this one, but I've worked on it a bit too and it's a big issue)

Let me know if you need additional information on those items or others.

Best,

Marisa Myers

Majority Caucus Policy Advisor | Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger
Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215
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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**132nd OHIO GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

MARCH 2017

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BUDGET AND TAXES

STATE OPERATING BUDGET – House Bill 49 – Sponsored by Representative Ryan Smith (R – Galipolis)

Makes appropriations for the operations of the state.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: NFIB/Ohio focused primarily on the tax reform components of the operating budget. The overall package results in a net tax reduction of \$39 million over the biennium. There is a 17% across the board income tax reduction, and a collapsing of income brackets from 9 to 5. The bill increases the sales tax from 5.75% to 6.25% and expands the base to a select group of services. The bill also increases the severance tax, cigarette and OTP taxes, and tax on beer & wine. The bill also subjects the CAT to interest on loans made by entities not subjected to the FIT and to qualified distribution centers of at least 10% of gross receipts. NFIB/Ohio does not support tax shifting. While the simplification on bracket collapsing is good policy, picking winners and losers on the sales tax and other taxes side is not. NFIB/Ohio supports the concept of centralized collection of municipal net profits tax to help ease the burden of filing. The budget appropriates nearly \$67 billion over the biennium (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019).

Status: Introduced February 8, 2017. Pending before Ohio House Finance Committee.

[House Bill 49](#)

SALES TAX HOLIDAY – Senate Bill 9 and House Bill 89 – Sponsored by Senator Kevin Bacon (R – Minerva Park) and Representatives John Patterson (D – Jefferson) and Brigid Kelly (D – Cincinnati)

To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support 

Analysis: The bill follows the trend of previous enacted bills and would institute a three-day sales tax holiday for 2017. NFIB/Ohio is supportive of making this policy permanent in lieu of revisiting every year.

Status: Introduced January 31, 2017, and February 22, 2017, in respective chambers. SB 9 passed the Ohio Senate on February 22, 2017, on a vote of 32-1. Pending vote of full Ohio House. HB 89 pending before the Ohio House Ways & Means committee in the Ohio House.

[Senate Bill 9](#)

[House Bill 89](#)

CAUV – Senate Bill 36 – Sponsored by Senator Cliff Hite (R – Findlay)

To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill would revise the current CAUV formula attempting to more adequately reflect fluctuations in commodity prices and subsequent adjustments in land valuation. Farmers have seen a substantial spike in land value upwards of 300% increases. This bill seeks to bring about tax relief to land designated with CAUV status. NFIB/Ohio will be closely monitoring this bill and the impact to other property owners. The fiscal note indicates a loss of \$17-\$18 million to local governments and schools which may lead to additional levies being sought.

Status: Introduced February 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Ways & Means Committee.

[Senate Bill 36](#)

STATE GOVERNMENT

MICROBUSINESS –House Bill 5 – Sponsored by Representatives Dorothy Pelanda (R – Marysville) and Theresa Gavarone (R – Bowling Green)

To enact section 166.50 of the Revised Code to create a statutory definition of "microbusiness."

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill simply defines a microbusiness as one that is for-profit, independently held and employs 20 or fewer.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Passed the Ohio House on March 1, 2017, on a vote of 96-0. Pending before the Ohio Senate Transportation, Commerce & Workforce Committee.

[House Bill 5](#)

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE DATABASE – House Bill 40 – Sponsored by Representatives Jonathan Dever (R – Madeira) and Dave Greenspan (R – Westlake)

To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill essentially codifies the Treasurer of State's existing government expenditure database known as Ohio's Online Checkbook. This voluntary program shows all expenditures for participating units of local government. NFIB/Ohio supports transparency and accountability for public expenditures of taxpayer dollars. Short of codification, and subsequent Treasurer of State could elect to not continue this program.

Status: Introduced February 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee.

[House Bill 40](#)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RIGHT TO WORK – House Bill 53 – Sponsored by Representative John Becker (R – Union Township)

To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill prohibits an individual from having to join an organization as condition of employment. It also prohibits any fair share payments to an organization as condition of employment. Nothing in the bill abolishes collective bargaining rights or the rights of an individual to contribute to an organization.

Status: Introduced February 13, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Finance Committee.

House Bill 53

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE – House Bill 86 – Sponsored by Representatives Kent Smith (D – Euclid) and Hearcel Craig (D – Columbus)

To increase the state minimum wage to ten dollars and ten cents per hour beginning January 1, 2019.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill would take Ohio's minimum wage from the current \$8.15 per hour to \$10.10 per hour and index to inflation in subsequent years. NFIB/Ohio opposes any attempt and setting a minimum wage as the market should dictate wages. Small employers are least able to absorb this government mandate and will have to make tough decisions on benefit packages, schedules and employment.

Status: Introduced February 22, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio House.

House Bill 86

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS – Senate Bill 38 – Sponsored by Senator Kenny Yuko (D – Richmond Heights)

To raise the minimum wage; to eliminate the prohibition against political subdivisions establishing a different minimum wage; to raise the salary threshold above which certain employees are exempt from the overtime law; and to create a uniform standard to determine whether an individual performing services for an employer is an employee of that employer.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill would raise the minimum wage to \$10.15 an hour and index to inflation and repeal the recently enacted and NFIB/Ohio Key Vote on restricting local governments from establishing a different minimum wage than the state. The bill also increases the salary threshold when certain employees are exempt from overtime. NFIB sued the federal government to stop the doubling of the threshold. This bill takes it further to \$50,000 in 2018 and \$69,000 in 2019. The bill also scraps the current test for who is or is not an employee and creates

draconian penalties for employers that recklessly misclassify individuals. The bill also adds liability to general contractors for the hiring practices of their subcontractors. NFIB has long challenged previous iterations of this bill. While we do not condone misclassification, the methods employed in this bill will likely lead to harassment of employers by competitors as any interested party may file a complaint with the Dept. of Commerce.

Status: Introduced February 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee.

Senate Bill 38

BAN THE BOX – Senate Bill 49 – Sponsored by Senator Sandra Williams (D – Cleveland)

To prohibit private employers from including on an employment application any question concerning whether an applicant has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a felony.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill prohibits an employer from asking about an applicant's pleading guilty to or being convicted of a felony on a job application. The bill does not preclude an employer from doing a background check. The bill appears to include no penalties for non-compliance. NFIB/Ohio members believe they should have the right to ask the question upfront and make their own decision about how to handle any previous felonies.

Status: Introduced February 14, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee.

Senate Bill 49

PERMISSIVE PREVAILING WAGE - Senate Bill 72 & House Bill 163 – Sponsored by Senator Matt Huffman (R – Lima) and Representatives Kristina Roegner (R – Hudson) & Craig Riedel (R – Defiance)

To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill would allow local governments, special districts (like port authorities) and higher education institutions to decide on a project by project basis whether to apply prevailing wage to any public improvement project. There are NFIB/Ohio members that are not able to meet the requirements for prevailing wage and thus are excluded from being bidders on prevailing wage projects. This bill also gives local governments and other public entities the ability to better manage their taxpayer dollars on projects and expand the number of competitive bids.

Status: Introduced February 27, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Finance Committee.
[Senate Bill 72](#) [House Bill 163](#)

HEALTHCARE

STEP THERAPY PROTOCOL – Senate Bill 56 & House Bill 72 – Sponsored by
Senators Peggy Lehner (R – Kettering) and Charleta Tavares (D – Columbus) and
Representative Terry Johnson (R – McDermott) and Nickie Antonio (D –
Lakewood)

To adopt requirements related to step therapy protocols implemented by health plan issuers and the Department of Medicaid.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill stipulates that step therapy protocols can be bypassed in certain circumstances. Step therapy is utilized by insurance companies to try and treat a patient with less costly drugs/therapy before moving on to more expensive treatments. The proponents of this legislation indicate insurance companies use fail first methods too much even when it is known that the treatment will fail. NFIB/Ohio is monitoring to see what impacts this might have on our members' health insurance premiums.

Status: Introduced February 14, 2017 and February 21, 2017, in respective chambers. Pending before the Ohio Senate Health, Human Service & Medicaid Committee. Pending before Ohio House Health Committee.

[Senate Bill 56](#)

[House Bill 72](#)

UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE – Senate Bill 91 – Sponsored by Senators Michael Skindell (D – Lakewood) and Charleta Tavares (D – Columbus)

To establish and operate the Ohio Health Care Plan to provide universal health care coverage to all Ohio residents.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill eliminates the competitive market for health insurance in favor of a universal, government run program. The bill is funded through employer payroll assessments of no more than 3.85% in first year, assessments on gross receipts of employers not to exceed 3% in the first year, assessments on income tax of 6.2% and for those earning over \$200,000 an additional 5%.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Insurance & Financial Institutions Committee.

[Senate Bill 91](#)

HEARING AID MANDATE – Senate Bill 93 – Sponsored by Senator Edna Brown (D – Toledo)

To require health insurers to offer coverage for hearing aids.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill requires that all health insurance policies that provide basic coverage be required to include a benefit of no less than \$1,500 per year over three years. The bill also prohibits any deductible or co-pay charges. Like all mandates they are only applicable to the fully-insured market, arguably the most volatile, leaving significant coverage gaps.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee.

[Senate Bill 93](#)

MAMMOGRAPHY MANDATE EXPANSION – Senate Bill 121 – Sponsored by Senator John Eklund (R – Munson Township)

To include tomosynthesis as part of required screening mammography benefits under health insurance policies.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill adds an additional requirement to the mammography mandate currently in Ohio Revised Code that would cover 3D imaging. NFIB/Ohio is working with the health insurance industry to understand if this service is already covered and the efficacy of this procedure in early detection of cancer. This bill is an expansion of an already existing mandate.

Status: Introduced March 30, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio Senate.

[Senate Bill 121](#)

LABOR

EMPLOYMENT LAW REFORM – House Bill 2 – Sponsored by Representative Seitz (R – Cincinnati)

To amend sections 2315.18, 4112.01, 4112.02, 4112.04, 4112.05, 4112.051, 4112.08, and 4112.99; to amend, for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as indicated in parentheses, sections 4112.051 (4112.055) and 4112.052 (4112.056); to enact new sections 4112.051, 4112.052 and sections 4112.053 and 4112.054; and to repeal section 4112.14 of the Revised Code to modify Ohio civil rights laws related to employment.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill would update Ohio's employment laws to sync with federal employment laws, particularly as it relates to statutes of limitation for filing of claims. The bill eliminates filing in multiple venues at the same time, eliminates supervisor liability for enforcement of a company policy, and puts a sliding scale cap on damages based upon employer size. These reforms will also streamline age discrimination lawsuits which have four different tracks of pursuit currently.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee.

[House Bill 2](#)

RIGHT TO WORK – House Bill 113 – Sponsored by Representative Tom Brinkman (R – Cincinnati)

To prohibit any requirement that employees of private employers join or pay dues to any employee organization and to establish civil and criminal penalties against employers who violate that prohibition.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Support

Analysis: The bill would prohibit the joining of any employee organization as a condition of employment. This policy is known as right to work. The bill also establishes both civil and criminal penalties including recovery for actual damages for individuals and fines up \$1,000 and up to 90 days in jail. NFIB/Ohio's last ballot on right to work received overwhelming support in favor.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee.

[House Bill 113](#)

WAGE DISCRIMINATION – House Bill 138 – Sponsored by Representatives Kent Smith (D – Euclid) and Janine Boyd (D – Cleveland)

To require the Ohio Civil Rights Commission to establish a system for individuals to make anonymous complaints regarding employers discriminating in the payment of wages.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill would create a process whereby an individual who feels he/she has been discriminated against with respect to wages/pay may file an anonymous complaint via phone or electronic means. Current procedure requires in person, via mail with a notarized complaint form or electronically which subsequently requires a notarized form to be resubmitted. Wage discrimination is currently illegal. NFIB/Ohio does not condone discrimination in any form or fashion. We will monitor this bill to ensure that employers are protected during investigations and not penalized simply based upon the filing of a complaint.

Status: Introduced March 21, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio House.

[House Bill 138](#)

PREDICTIVE SCHEDULING – Senate Bill 101 – Sponsored by Senator Michael Skindell (D – Lakewood)

To regulate certain employment practices of formula retail establishment employers, food services establishment employers, and contractors and to require the purchaser of a formula retail establishment or food services establishment to retain certain employees of the establishment on transfer of ownership.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill requires two weeks advanced notice for employee scheduling. Deviation or adjustment will result in payment of some of the hours to the employee. Bill also requires retention of certain employees when a specific type of business is sold or ownership is transferred. NFIB/Ohio supported legislation in the 131st GA that keeps scheduling and other fringe benefits between employer and employee. Any interference in this process, including retention of employees upon transfer of ownership, is unnecessary government involvement in an employer/employee contract/relationship.

Status: Introduced March 15, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio Senate.

[Senate Bill 101](#)

WORKERS' COMP & UNEMPLOYMENT COMP

WORKERS' COMP BUDGET – House Bill 27 – Sponsored by Representative Tom Brinkman (R – Cincinnati)

To make changes to the Workers' Compensation Law, to make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill is the biennial budget for the BWC, separate from the state operating budget. There is a provision contained within that would dismiss a claim for permanent partial disability should the applicant not submit to a medical examination. This provision is a part of one of NFIB/Ohio's key workers' compensation reforms. The \$566.5 million budget is a 2.5% increase from the previous biennium. Ongoing monitoring will continue through the legislative process. The sub bill includes a provision that reduces the statute of limitations for filing a claim from 2 years to 1 year. This provision has been a decades long priority of NFIB/Ohio.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Insurance Committee.

[House Bill 27](#)

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION BUDGET – House Bill 28 – Sponsored by Representative Tom Brinkman (R- Cincinnati)

To make appropriations for the Industrial Commission for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of Commission programs.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: This is simply an appropriations bill. There is currently no policy changes included. NFIB/Ohio will continue to monitor for any policy additions. The bill appropriates \$103.6 million over the biennium representing a one percent increase over the previous biennium.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Finance Committee.

[House Bill 28](#)

MILITARY SPOUSE WORKERS' COMP – House Bill 158 & Senate Bill 116 – Sponsored by Representatives Rick Perales (R – Beavercreek) & Hearcel Craig

(D – Columbus) and Senators Frank LaRose (R – Hudson) & Sandra Williams (D- Cleveland)

To permit persons who quit work to accompany the person's spouse on a military transfer to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill permits the spouse of an active duty military member to qualify for unemployment benefits should the spouse be required to move as a result of a military transfer. NFIB/Ohio always is always focused on expansion of benefits particularly when an expansion could cause the full FUTA offset credit to be lost skyrocketing employers' rates from \$42 per employee to \$420 per employee. However, as Ohio is no longer in a state of borrowing this penalty would not be triggered. This provision is estimated to cost less than \$100,000 annually in benefit payouts.

Status: Introduced March 23, 2017, in the Ohio House and March 22, 2017, in the Ohio Senate. Pending referral to committee in both chambers.

House Bill 158

Senate Bill 116

PTSD WORKERS' COMP – Senate Bill 118 & House Bill 161 – Sponsored by
Senators Frank LaRose (R – Hudson) and Edna Brown (D – Toledo) and
Representative Tom Patton (R – Strongsville)

To make peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury eligible for compensation and benefits under Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law for up to one year and to prohibit such a person from receiving a disability benefit from a state retirement system for post-traumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury during the time period the person receives compensation and benefits under the Workers' Compensation Law for the disorder.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Opposed

Analysis: The bill would allow PTSD or mental allowances as the basis for a workers' compensation claim for first responders. This would undo decades of precedence that requires an underlying physical injury to have a mental allowance. This bill does limit benefits to one year and prohibit an individual from receiving a disability benefit without a physical injury. When BWC testified against a similar bill they estimated public employer premiums would double. NFIB/Ohio is very concerned about a potential challenge on equal protection grounds opening up all employers to these claims.

Status: Introduced March 23, 2017, in the Ohio Senate and March 28, 2017, in the Ohio Senate. Pending referral to committee in both chambers.

Senate Bill 118

House Bill 161

TORT REFORM/CIVIL JUSTICE

MED MAL REFORM – House Bill 7 – Sponsored by Representative Bob Cupp (R – Lima)

To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim; to provide that medical bills itemizing charges are inadmissible as evidence and an amount accepted as full payment for medical services is admissible as evidence of the reasonableness of the charges; to specify the manner of sending a notice of intent to file a medical claim and provide a procedure for the discovery of other potential claims within a specified period after the filing of a medical claim; to provide that any loss of a chance of recovery or survival by itself is not an injury, death, or loss for which damages may be recovered; to provide civil immunity to certain medical providers regarding the discharge of a patient with a mental condition that threatens the safety of the patient or others; to require that governmental agencies that receive peer review committee records maintain their confidentiality; and to clarify the definition of "medical claim."

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The many provisions of the bill are articulated in the title. Analysis is ongoing as the bill sees activity.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Civil Justice Committee.

[House Bill 7](#)

DAMAGE CAPS REMOVAL – House Bill 20 – Sponsored by Representatives Anne Gonzales (R – Westerville) and Kristin Boggs (D – Columbus)

To amend section 2315.18 of the Revised Code to remove the cap on the amount of compensatory damages that represents damages for noneconomic loss that is recoverable in a tort action when the tort action is brought by a victim of rape, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, or negligent assault.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill is in response to a recent Ohio Supreme Court ruling upholding Ohio's noneconomic damage caps for a victim of sexual assault. This bill would remove the caps in place for instances of rape, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, or negligent assault. NFIB/Ohio will be closely monitoring this bill to protect employer liability for non-work related actions done by employees.

Status: Introduced February 1, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee.

House Bill 20

SEXUAL ORIENTATION DISCRIMINATION – House Bill 160 – Sponsored by Representative Nickie Antonio (D – Lakewood)

To enact the Ohio Fairness Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, to add mediation to the list of informal methods by which the Ohio Civil Rights Commission may use to induce compliance with Ohio's Civil Rights Law before instituting a formal hearing, and to uphold existing religious exemptions under Ohio's Civil Rights Law.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill would add sexual orientation and gender identity or expression to the list of protected classes for purposes of discrimination. NFIB/Ohio does not condone discrimination but carefully monitors legislation that adds avenues in which employers may be sued. NFIB/Ohio supports broader reforms to Ohio's employment discrimination included in House Bill 2.

Status: Introduced March 28, 2017. Pending referral to committee in the Ohio House.

House Bill 160

TRESPASSING NOTIFICATION – Senate Bill 76 – Sponsored by Senator Bill Coley (R – Liberty Township)

To amend the law governing criminal trespass to specify that placing purple paint marks on trees or posts constitutes posting notice in a manner reasonably calculated to come to the attention of potential intruders.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill allows private property owners to paint purple marks on trees or posts to notify potential trespassers that they are on or near private property. This bill aims to protect private property owners from potential litigation by giving another means of notification of property boundaries.

Status: Introduced February 27, 2017. Pending before the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee.

Senate Bill 76

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

ENERGY EFFICIENCY REFORM – House Bill 114 – Sponsored by Representative Louis Blessing (R – Cincinnati)

To revise the provisions governing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program.

NFIB/Ohio Position: Interested Party

Analysis: The bill is similar to the bill vetoed last GA by Governor Kasich. The bill extends the current renewable energy and energy efficient requirements through 2027 and eliminates after. Additionally, freezes mandates for two years making them goals instead. The bill reduces energy efficiency benchmarks and adds items to what counts toward benchmarks. The bill adds mercantile customers (700k+ kWh annually) to the opt-out provisions. Further the bill permits residential customers to opt-out of any rider or other charges related to renewal energy and expressly states that all costs for providing renewable energy resources are bypassable by any consumer shopping for an electrical supplier.

Status: Introduced March 7, 2017. Pending before the Ohio House Public Utilities Committee.

[House Bill 114](#)

From: NCSL's Our American States
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 4:30 PM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: Five U.S. Supreme Court cases to watch this term

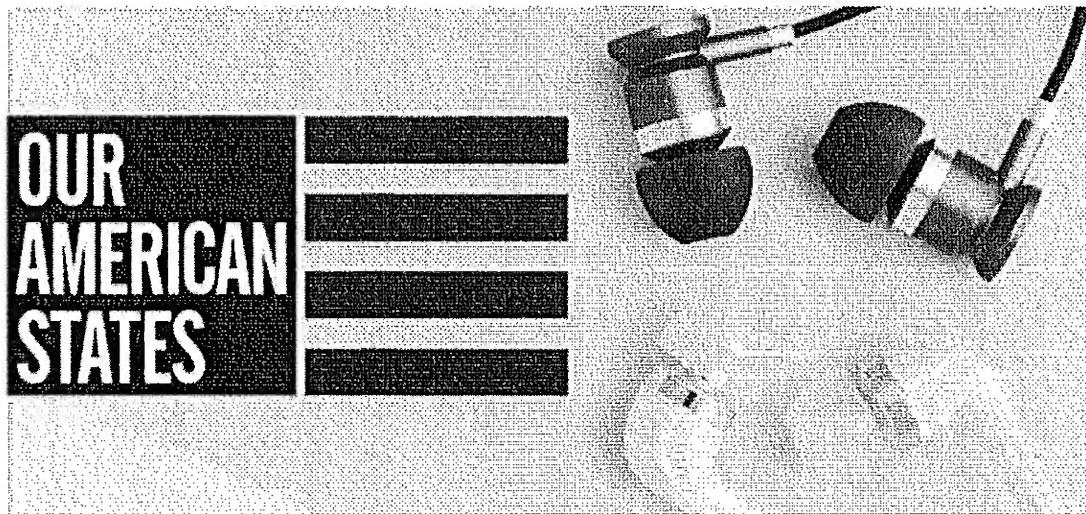
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NATIONAL CONFERENCE
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U.S. Supreme Court Cases to Watch This Term



Five cases that the U.S. Supreme Court has put on its docket for the current term could have a significant impact on states. State legislatures are waiting for decisions on these cases, and could

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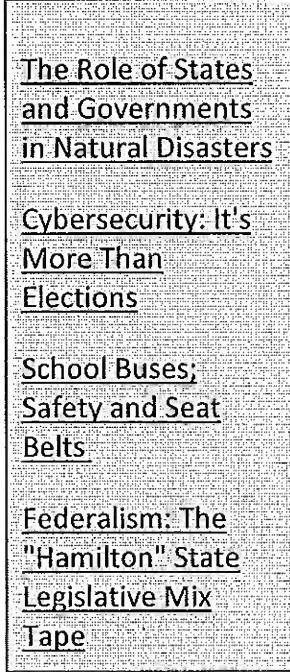
cause them to change state laws depending on how the court rules. And a potentially explosive sixth case is waiting in the wings.

Our guests this episode are **Lisa Soronen**, executive director of the State and Local Legal Center, and **Susan Frederick**, senior federal affairs counsel at NCSL.

The cases we examine are:

- *Gill v. Whitford*, a Wisconsin case in which the court may decide whether partisan gerrymandering is unconstitutional.
- *Masterpiece Cakeshop, Ltd. v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*, looks at whether Colorado's public accommodations law violates a cake artist's First Amendment free speech and free exercise rights.
- *Janus v. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees* the court will address whether unions can collect dues from nonmembers.
- *Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute* looks at Ohio's procedures to remove voters from their rolls after four years of inactivity.
- *Christie v. National Collegiate Athletic Association* may decide how far Congress can regulate states and localities in the absence of comprehensive federal regulation.

And, as a bonus, we'll discuss what could happen if the court accepts a South Dakota case that could overturn the 1992 *Quill Corp v North Dakota*, which said states could not force business to collect sales or use taxes unless it has a physical presence in a state.



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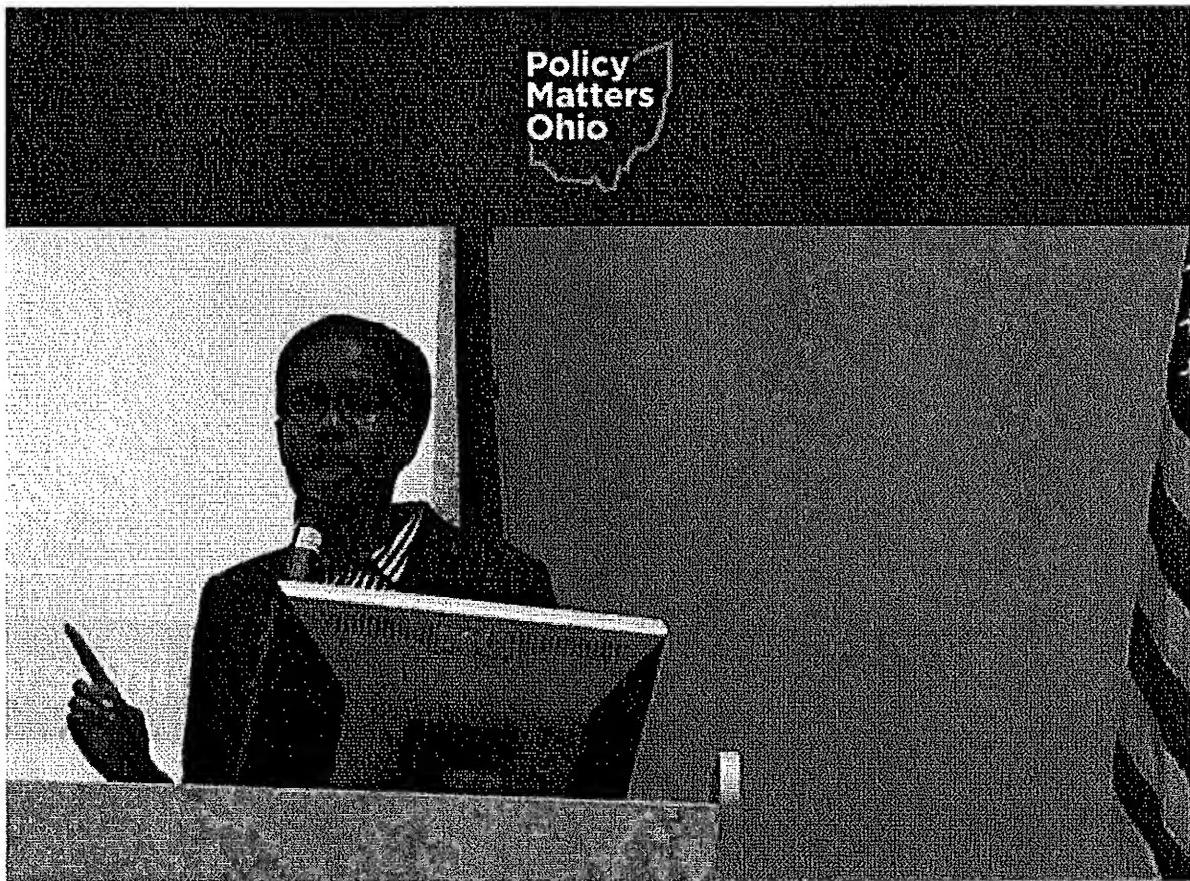
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Subject: News from Policy Matters: Deforming the tax code

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The latest news from Policy Matters

Tax (de)form moves forward: President Trump and Congressional Republicans are selling us a bill of goods – claiming their plan to overhaul the tax code will spur economic growth and help the middle class. But their plan skews heavily to the wealthy and corporations and paves the way for the slashing of important programs like food aid, Pell Grants and Medicaid. And deductions you might depend on, like the State and Local Income Tax (SALT) are at risk. That's not reforming the tax code, that's deforming it. Our Wendy Patton explained how the plan would hurt most everyday Ohioans. The process isn't over yet, Republicans say they want their \$1.5 trillion tax cut passed by December. There's still time to call or email your members of Congress and voice your displeasure.

Eye on Columbus: With so much happening in Washington, D.C. it can be easy to forget that lawmakers in Columbus are also making decisions that affect our lives — and some not for the better. But Research Director Zach Schiller never forgets, and he's been carefully scrutinizing bills that would further benefit the wealthy at the expense of the rest of us. This week Zach submitted testimony about residency requirements that allow "Florida snowbirds" to avoid paying income tax. He called on legislators to change the law so that anyone living in Ohio 183 days or more pays income tax. Zach also testified against a bill that would expand the "passthrough tax loophole" that costs Ohio \$1 billion a year without spurring job creation. Finally, Zach continues to bang the drum on unemployment compensation reform – pushing for a bill that works for workers.

Budget Bites: Over the last two weeks we took a hard look at Ohio's 2018-2019 budget. We applauded lawmakers for the concerted and coordinated efforts they made to steer more resources to stem the drug crisis. They increased funding for the department of mental health and addiction services by 16.4 percent and funding for children's services by 36.8 percent. Other protective services for adults and seniors didn't fare as well. Alternatives to incarceration received more funding in the state budget: Community-based correctional services that include drug treatment and rehabilitation went up by 10 percent. But Medicaid, one of Ohio's most important tools in providing access to treatment for people struggling with addiction, faces several threats, such as a potential freeze on enrollment for

Medicaid expansion, work requirements and new premiums for enrollees. Part of the problem with Ohio's response to the drug crisis is that it doesn't provide much new revenue to address it. Instead it diverts money from other sources such as the Local Government Fund. Local Governments also lose out in this budget due to changes in the state tax base, as do public transit agencies. Together, they will lose nearly \$200 million a year after the budget period ends.

Out and about: Executive Director Amy Hanauer faced off against "So Called Right to Work" supporters at the Ohio Economic Development Forum. She also moderated a panel on race and class at the Economic Analysis and Research Network Conference in Arizona. Wendy joined others for a panel on the state's response to the drug epidemic at a forum hosted by Ohio District 15 Indivisible. Victoria Jackson (pictured above) gave the keynote address at Eastern Ohio Education Partnership's 2017 Excellence in Education Awards.

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The latest news from Policy Matters

Tax (de)form moves forward: President Trump and Congressional Republicans are selling us a bill of goods – claiming their plan to overhaul the tax code will spur economic growth and help the middle class. But their plan skews heavily to the wealthy and corporations and paves the way for the slashing of important programs like food aid, Pell Grants and Medicaid. And deductions you might depend on, like the State and Local Income Tax (SALT) are at risk. That's not reforming the tax code, that's deforming it. Our Wendy Patton [explained how the plan would hurt most everyday Ohioans](#). [The process isn't over yet](#), Republicans say they want their \$1.5 trillion tax cut passed by December. There's still time to [call or email](#) your members of Congress and voice your displeasure.

Eye on Columbus: With so much happening in Washington, D.C. it can be easy to forget that lawmakers in Columbus are also making decisions that affect our lives — and some not for the better. But Research Director Zach Schiller never forgets, and he's been carefully scrutinizing bills that would further benefit the

wealthy at the expense of the rest of us. This week Zach submitted testimony about residency requirements that allow "Florida snowbirds" to avoid paying income tax. He called on legislators to change the law so that anyone living in Ohio 183 days or more pays income tax. Zach also testified against a bill that would expand the "passthrough tax loophole" that costs Ohio \$1 billion a year without spurring job creation. Finally, Zach continues to bang the drum on unemployment compensation reform – pushing for a bill that works for workers.

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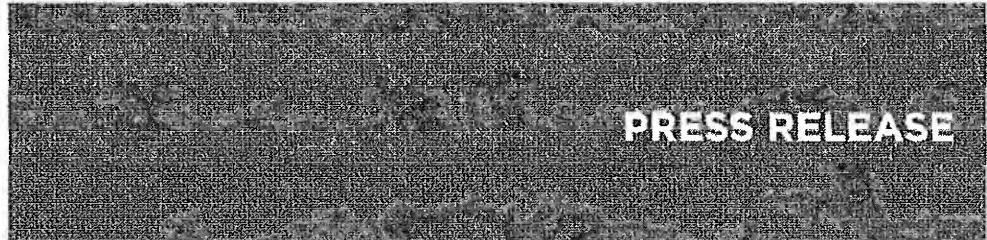
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Expand Trade Adjustment Assistance to help displaced Ohio workers

Contact: [Hannah Halbert](#)
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Between 2001 and 2015, 124,000 Ohio workers received federal assistance after losing their jobs due to trade agreements with other nations. During that time, the Economic Policy Institute estimates that Ohio lost nearly as many — 121,500 — jobs to the trade deficit with China alone.

In a new report, Policy Matters Ohio examines the role of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) in helping workers displaced because of free-trade pacts like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Petitions for TAA assistance are often filed by unions or the relocating or closing companies themselves. Eligible workers receive a cash allowance if they enroll in a full-time training course. TAA also helps workers cover some of the costs of job searching or relocation. Workers 50 or over who take a new job that pays less than \$50,000 may receive a wage supplement of no more than \$10,000. TAA also helps trade-affected workers with a tax credit of up to 72.5 percent of health insurance premium costs.

In response to the Great Recession, President Obama expanded TAA to cover more workers under the federal Stimulus Package. In 2009, the annual number of Ohio's TAA-certified workers peaked at 22,214. Last year, 3,790 Ohio workers received TAA certification. As of November 2017, 3,615 Ohioans have been covered.

"TAA only covers a fraction of Ohio workers harmed by trade policy," said Policy Matters Researcher Hannah Halbert. "The 2009 jump in certified workers proves the expanded program was needed and well-used in Ohio, which still hasn't fully recovered from the recession."

Last year, TAA certifications clustered in counties with more blue-collar jobs. Six petitions in Cuyahoga County covered more than 500 jobs, as did seven in southwest Ohio. Two in Knox and Coshocton counties covered more than 700 jobs.

Meanwhile, workers in other countries have also suffered from bad trade agreements. In 2014, Mexico's poverty rate was higher than when NAFTA began. During NAFTA renegotiations, Canada declared the labor laws in both Mexico and the U.S. to be so poor that they provide an unfair and unjust competitive advantage. Specifically, Canada called for an end to so-called right to work laws that chip away at collective bargaining power for workers.

"It's clear that NAFTA-style free trade agreements have hurt workers while benefitting multinational corporations," Halbert said. "One thing we can do to tip the scales back in the right direction is to expand TAA. The program must be more robust to really help Ohio's displaced workers." 0

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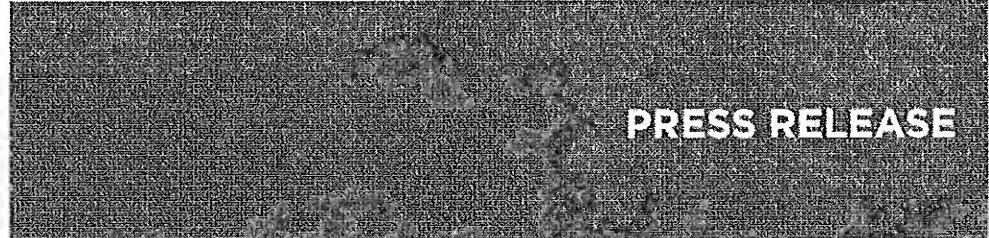
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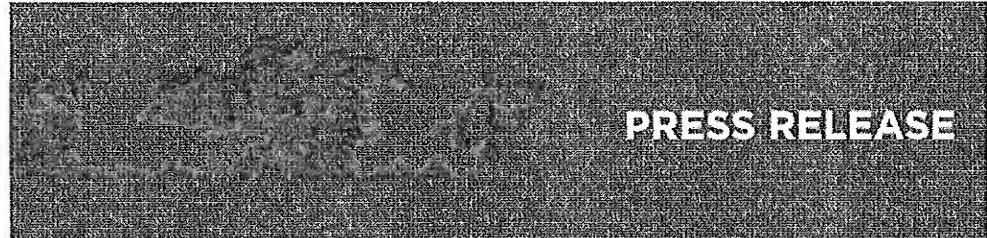
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FORM
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From: Caitlin Johnson, Policy Matters Ohio
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2017 3:09 PM
To: Myers, Marisa
Subject: RELEASE: Expand Trade Adjustment Assistance to help displaced Ohio workers

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PRESS RELEASE

= A

Expand Trade Adjustment Assistance to help displaced Ohio workers

Contact: [Hannah Halbert](#)
[614.221.4505](#)

Between 2001 and 2015, 124,000 Ohio workers received federal assistance after losing their jobs due to trade agreements with other nations. During that time, the Economic Policy Institute estimates that Ohio lost nearly as many — 121,500 — jobs to the trade deficit with China alone.

In a new report, Policy Matters Ohio examines the role of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) in helping workers displaced because of free-trade pacts like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Petitions for TAA assistance are often filed by unions or the relocating or closing companies themselves. Eligible workers receive a cash allowance if they enroll in a full-time training course. TAA also helps workers cover some of the costs of job searching or relocation. Workers 50 or over who take a new job that pays less than \$50,000 may receive a wage supplement of no more than \$10,000. TAA also helps trade-affected workers with a tax credit of up to 72.5 percent of health insurance premium costs.

In response to the Great Recession, President Obama expanded TAA to cover more workers under the federal Stimulus Package. In 2009, the annual number of Ohio's TAA-certified workers peaked at 22,214. Last year, 3,790 Ohio workers received TAA certification. As of November 2017, 3,615 Ohioans have been covered.

"TAA only covers a fraction of Ohio workers harmed by trade policy," said Policy Matters Researcher Hannah Halbert. "The 2009 jump in certified workers proves the expanded program was needed and well-used in Ohio, which still hasn't fully recovered from the recession."

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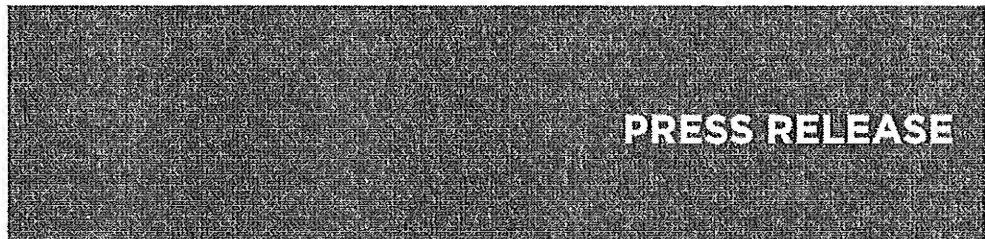
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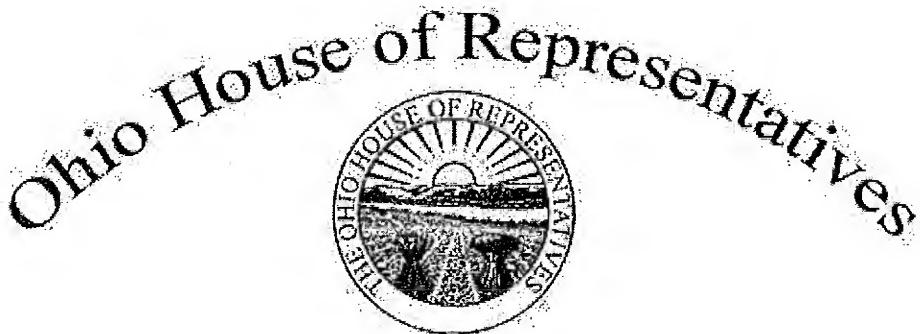
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FORM
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From: Michalowski, Joe
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 11:38 AM
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Subject: Becker Co-sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments
Attachments: Co-sponsor Request- Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments.pdf



Representative John Becker
Ohio's 65th House District

MEMORANDUM

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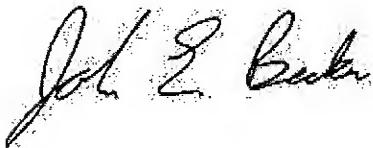
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These proposals simply ask the General Assembly to put them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. Twenty-eight states and four out of five of Ohio's neighboring states have enacted Right-to-Work laws. Clearly, the nation's future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union payments as a condition of employment. Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio's future.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Joe Michalowski at (614) 466-8134 or joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov. Please indicate which constitutional amendment(s) you wish to co-sponsor. The deadline to co-sponsor is Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at 4:00 P.M.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.



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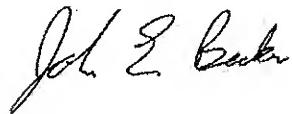
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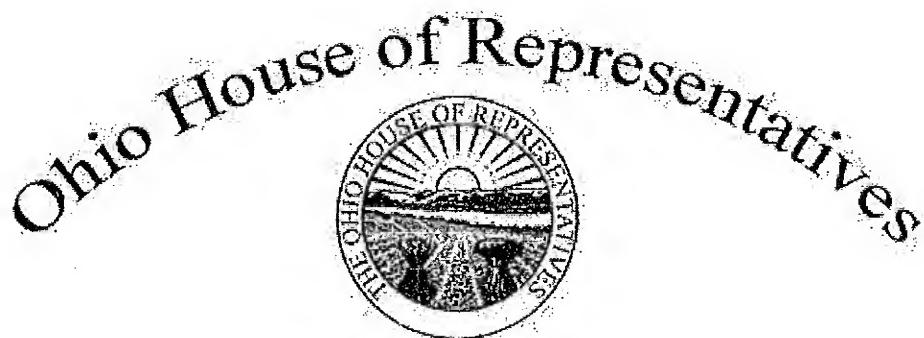
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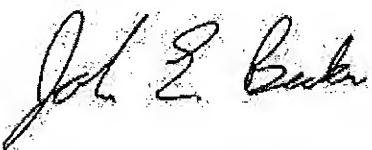
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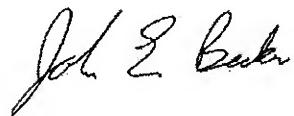
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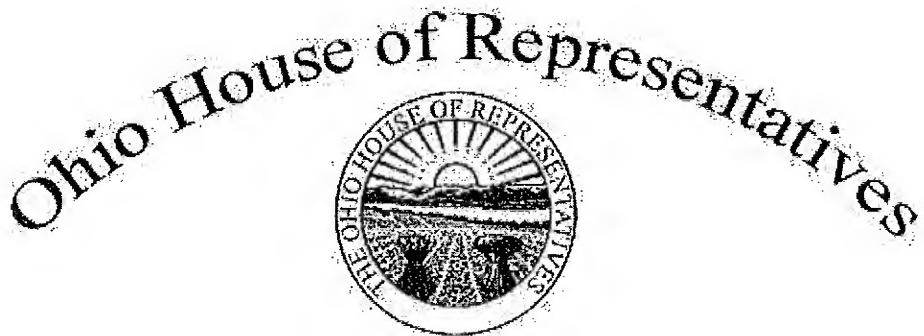
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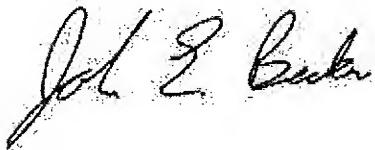
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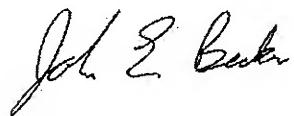
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From: report@hannah.com
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 6:30 PM
To: DL_Hannah
Subject: Hannah News Stories for Monday, December 18, 2017

Monday, December 18, 2017

IN TODAY'S HANNAH REPORT:

Please click here to read the entire Hannah Report.

Today's Stories

- [Kasich Seeks to Give Last 'State of State' in Westerville on March 6](#)
- [Kasich Names Laubert Acting Director of ODA](#)
- [Senate Plans to Address Voting Machine Funding, Obhof Says](#)
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From: Westlake, Libby
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 8:39 AM
To: Westlake, Libby
Subject: E-Clips for 12/20/2017

HOUSE E-CLIPS

12/20/2017

The Columbus Dispatch
Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper

REPORT SUGGESTS STATE AGENCY ALREADY HAS VIOLATED NEW CONTRACTING POLICY

After The Dispatch revealed the Ohio Department of Administrative Services awarded \$15 million in unbid contracts to favored information-technology consultants, the agency promised to clean up its act.

NEW WHALEY AD PRAISES WORK, PROMISES JOBS

Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley has released a new internet ad touting the dignity of work as she seeks the Democratic nomination for governor.

Dayton Daily News
www.daytondailynews.com

LEHNER'S BILL AIMS TO CHANGE OHIO TEACHER EVALUATION SYSTEM

The Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) could see significant changes if a bill recently introduced by State Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) becomes law.

STATE SENATOR TO RUN FOR MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSION

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THE ENQUIRER

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To: Westlake, Libby
Subject: E-Clips for 12/20/2017

HOUSE E-CLIPS

12/20/2017

The Columbus Dispatch

Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper

REPORT SUGGESTS STATE AGENCY ALREADY HAS VIOLATED NEW CONTRACTING POLICY

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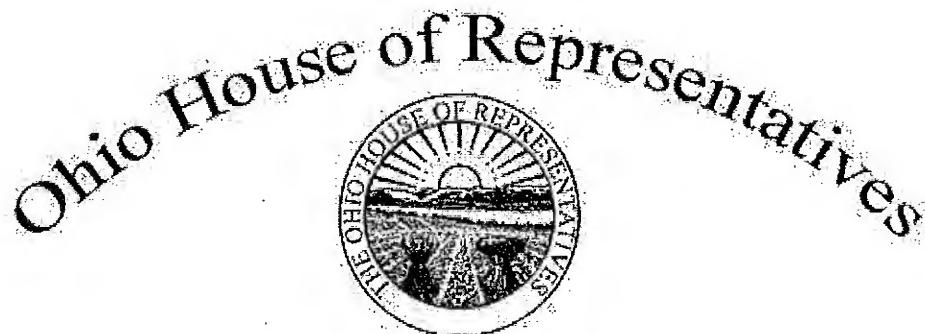
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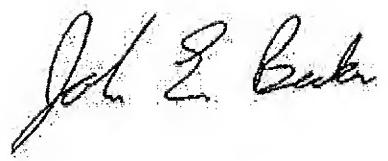
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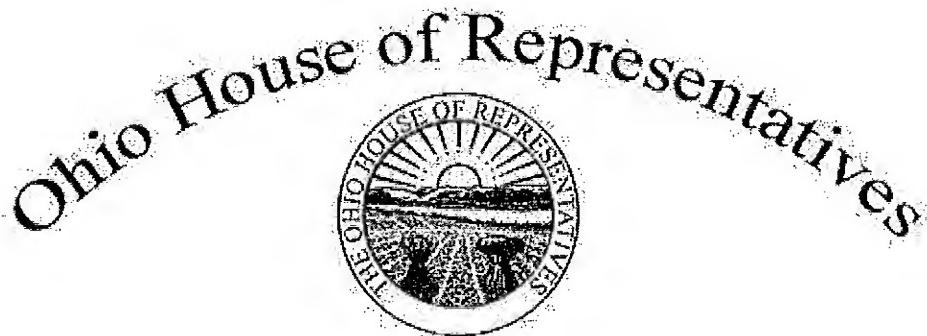
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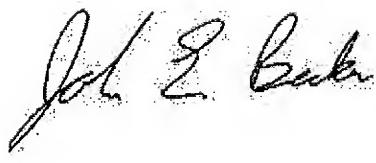
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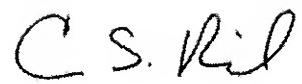
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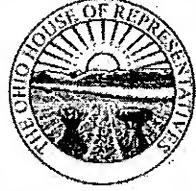


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HOUSE E-CLIPS

1/8/2018



OHIO BANS SALE OF DOZENS OF INVASIVE PLANTS UNDER NEW RULES

Ohio has banned the sale of more than three dozen invasive plant species under new rules that took effect Sunday.

PROPOSED OHIO LAW WOULD PREVENT FORCED NURSE OVERTIME

A shortage of nurses in Ohio has prompted a state lawmaker to propose a law that would ban hospitals from requiring nurses to work overtime.



JOSH MANDEL QUITTING US SENATE CHALLENGE OF SHERROD BROWN SEAT

Because of an unspecified health issue involving his wife, Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel is dropping out of the race to challenge Democratic U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown.

KASICH SETS PRIMARY FOR TIBERI SEAT FOR MAY 8; SPECIAL ELECTION ON AUG. 7

Ohio Gov. John Kasich has set the elections in which voters will determine who will be nominated — and ultimately serve — the remainder of the term of resigning U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi.

OHIO GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS MIGHT BE SOFTENED FOR CLASSES OF 2019 AND 2020

The Ohio Board of Education is expected to urge lawmakers next week to back off tougher new requirements to graduate high school for at least another two years.

TAYLOR STAYS FIRM WITH GOVERNOR RUN; RENACCI REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING BID FOR SENATE

Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor plans to stay the course with her run for the Republican gubernatorial nomination and will not seek to replace Josh Mandel in the GOP quest to unseat Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown this year.

38 SPECIES OF INVASIVE PLANTS NOW ILLEGAL TO SELL IN OHIO

Ohio is taking a swing at nature's bullies.

ECOT CASE PROMPTS CALLS FOR BETTER RULES TO VERIFY STUDENT ENROLLMENT

As the Ohio Supreme Court prepares to hear arguments in ECOT's lawsuit regarding repayments for unverified students, some legislators say it's time for more clarity.

TOP OHIO HOUSE GOP AIDE LEAVING FOR CAMPAIGN ROLES

After 15 years in the Ohio House, having worked his way up from low-level page to chief of staff for the speaker, Mike Dittoe is stepping down.

OHIO PURGE OF VOTER ROLLS GETS SUPREME COURT SCRUTINY THIS WEEK

To the state of Ohio, it is nothing more than a housekeeping device to keep the voting rolls up to date.

OHIO SCHOOL DISTRICTS ANXIOUS FOR REFUNDS FROM ECOT'S \$60 MILLION REPAYMENT

The checks are not yet in the mail, but they will be coming.

WILL 2018 BE THE YEAR OF THE WOMAN? SIGNS POINT TO YES

On any given year, EMILY'S List — the Democratic organization that recruits pro-choice women to run for office — draws the interest of a few hundred women thinking of running for office.

EDITORIAL: LEGISLATURE FAILED OHIO CONSUMERS

The Ohio legislature's blinkered priorities and pandering to industry interests is made plain in its failure to end the abusive practices of "submetering," which forces more than 28,000 households in central Ohio alone to pay heftier electricity and water bills.

Dayton Daily News

www.daytondailynews.com

GROUP PUSHING BALLOT MEASURE TO INCREASE REGULATION OF PUPPY MILLS

Following a dramatic showdown between animal rights groups and agriculture heavy weights seven years ago, Ohio struck a deal to bring about sweeping reforms for how farm animals are handled.

ARE YOU OWED MONEY? OHIO'S UNCLAIMED FUND HITS \$2.6 BILLION

Now that the holidays are over and the credit card bills are due, it might be a good time to check to see if the state of Ohio is hanging onto any money you forgot about.

ARE OHIO'S LICENSING RULES OUT OF WHACK?

It takes nearly a year of training to become a licensed barber in Ohio, but one can become an advanced emergency medical technician — with the ability to administer narcotics — in less than six weeks.

THE PLAIN DEALER

JOSH MANDEL DROPS OUT OF THE SENATE RACE

Republican Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel announced Friday his withdrawal from the race for U.S. Senate.

JEFF JOHNSON, FORMER CLEVELAND COUNCILMAN, PLANS TO CHALLENGE OHIO SEN. SANDRA WILLIAMS IN MAY PRIMARY

Jeff Johnson, just days after leaving office as a Cleveland council member following an unsuccessful run for mayor, says he plans to challenge Ohio Sen. Sandra Williams in the May Democratic primary.

WHAT ATTRIBUTES SHOULD A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE HAVE? IT'S NOT JUST THE "THREE R'S" ANYMORE

What should a high school graduate look like in Ohio?

OHIO STILL HAS A POLITICAL GENDER GAP, BUT NOT IN THE RACE FOR GOVERNOR: A WOMAN'S PLACE

Betty Sutton knows what it's like to be the only female politician in a room full of men.

VOTING IN OHIO MATTERS - LOOK AT THE 141 TIES AND ONE-VOTE RACES IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS: THOMAS SUDDES

Ohio's neighboring state once-removed, Virginia, showed last week why every vote counts in American elections.

THE ENQUIRER

JOSH MANDEL'S SHOCKING EXIT HAS REPUBLICANS CONCERNED. AND THEY DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO REPLACE HIM.

Minutes after Republican U.S. Senate candidate Josh Mandel quit the race Friday afternoon, reality set in for Republicans.

THE BLADE

REPUBLICAN LAWMAKERS PUSH TO MAKE OHIO "RIGHT TO WORK"

More than six years after voters resoundingly rejected similar proposals at the polls, a package of proposed constitutional amendments have been introduced to make Ohio the 29th state to enact "right to work."

OHIO VOTERS WILL HAVE MULTIPLE CANDIDATES TO CHOOSE FROM IN 2018

Ohio faces a mixed bag of political races this year, with contests ranging from governor all the way down to local judgeships and leadership of the Lucas County Republican Party.

EDITORIAL: OPIOID AID FOR OHIO'S TOWNS

Ohio, especially small-town Ohio, is now enduring a sociological and budgetary perfect storm.